



# SPICE & WOLF

VOL. 10

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CHARACTER DESIGN: JYUU AYAKURA

PARENTAL ADVISORY  
**WARNING**  
EXPLICIT CONTENT

SPICE & WOLF



## **Lawrence**

A clever young merchant and member of the Rowen Trade Guild. Traveling in search of Holo's homeland of Yoitsu.



## **Holo**

A beautiful girl traveling with Lawrence. Her true form is that of the wolf-god of the harvest.

## **Eve**

A beautiful merchant woman who hides her face and dresses like a man. She's an important figure in the north side of Kerube.



## **Col**

A boy who Lawrence saved and who has come to travel with them. A polite and clever apprentice.



## **Reynolds**

The master of the Jean Company on the north bank of Kerube. Possesses information from a forbidden book.



## **Kieman**

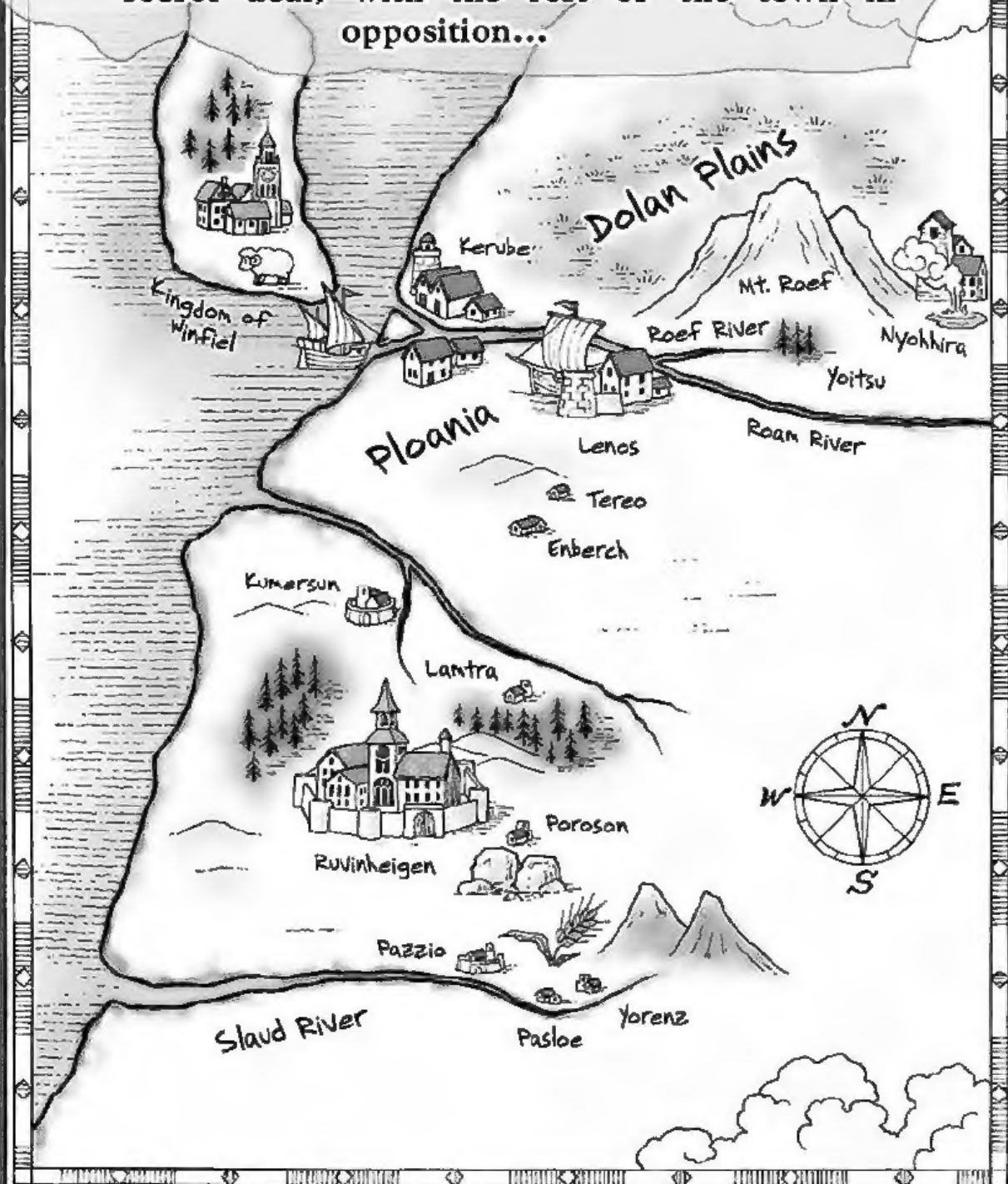
The chief of the Kerube branch of the Rowen Trade Guild.

# Introduction

In order to protect Holo's homeland, Lawrence and company have come to the port town of Kerube in search of a forbidden book of mining techniques. The party moves through the town, which is divided into opposing north and south sides.

But when a legendary creature, a narwhal, is hauled ashore, the situation changes rapidly. The narwhal is valuable enough that it could tip the precarious balance of power, and soon the town is in an uproar. Amid such danger, Lawrence and

Eve the merchant woman find themselves involved in a secret deal, with the rest of the town in opposition...



# SPICE & WOLF

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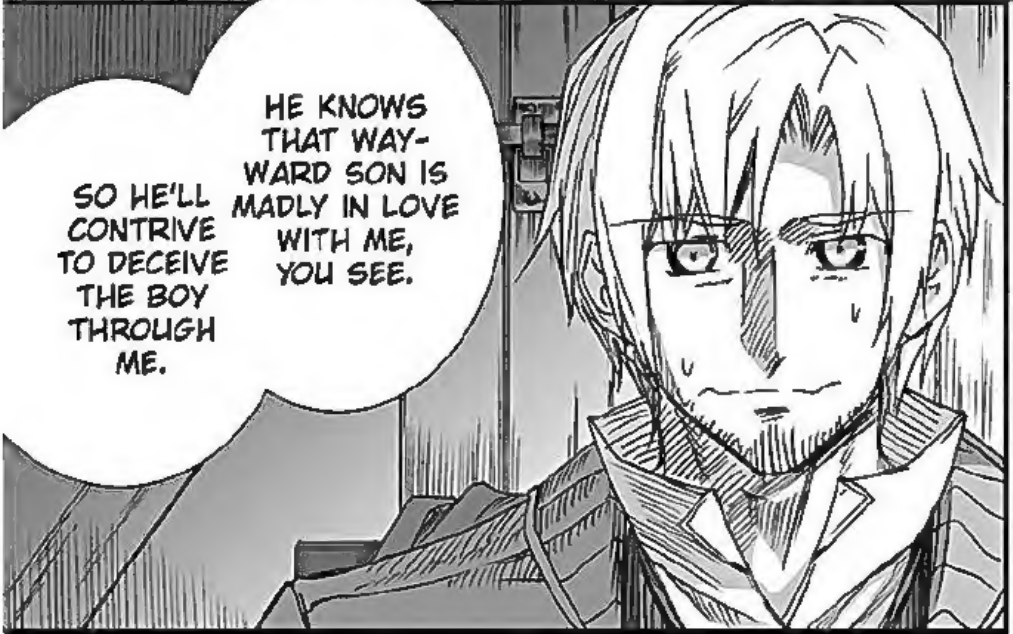
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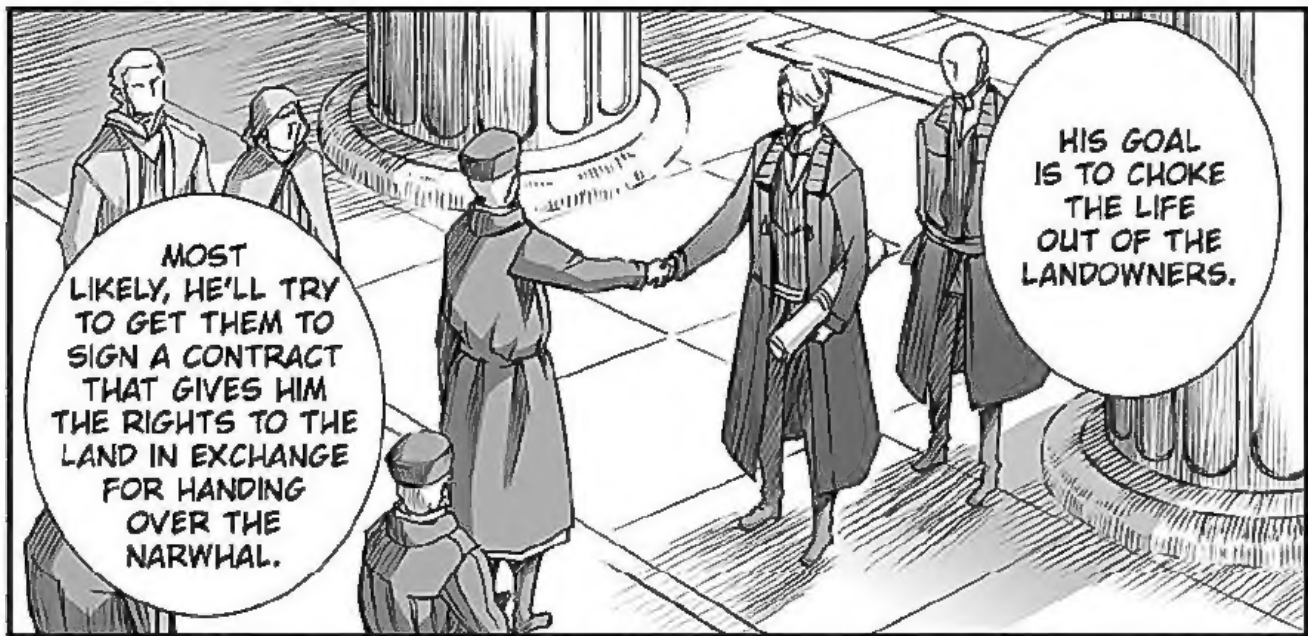


KIEMAN IS  
TRYING TO  
USE ME.



SO HE'LL  
CONTRIVE  
TO DECEIVE  
THE BOY  
THROUGH  
ME.

HE KNOWS  
THAT WAY-  
WARD SON IS  
MADLY IN LOVE  
WITH ME,  
YOU SEE.



MOST  
LIKELY, HE'LL TRY  
TO GET THEM TO  
SIGN A CONTRACT  
THAT GIVES HIM  
THE RIGHTS TO THE  
LAND IN EXCHANGE  
FOR HANDING  
OVER THE  
NARWHAL.

HIS GOAL  
IS TO CHOKE  
THE LIFE  
OUT OF THE  
LANDOWNERS.



BUT  
SUPPOSE  
I'M THE  
ONE WHO  
REVEALS  
THE PLAN  
TO THAT  
INDOLENT  
BOY.



YOU  
WOULD  
THINK IT  
PREPOS-  
TEROUS,  
WOULDN'T  
YOU?



THE TITLES  
WILL GO TO  
KIEMAN, AND  
THE NARWHAL  
WILL BE  
STOLEN BY  
THE SON.



WELL, HE'LL  
BE BLINDED  
BY LOVE, I  
SUPPOSE.

.....



PACHI  
CKRAK

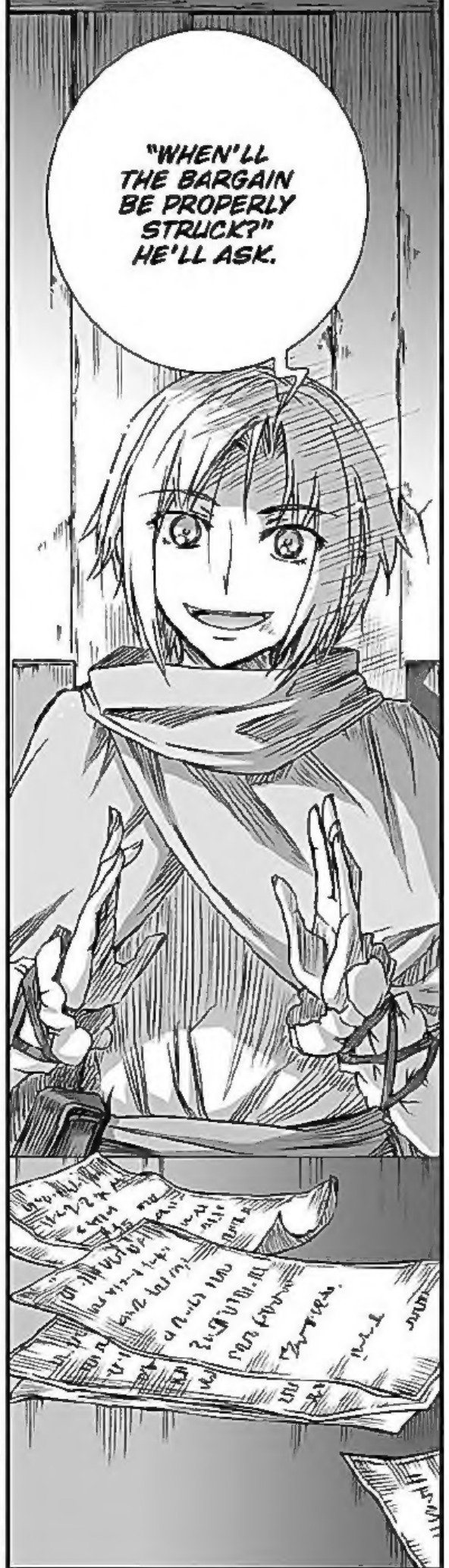
110 千



I UNDERSTAND  
KIEMAN'S  
REASONING,  
OF COURSE.

THE OLD  
MEN HATE  
CHANGE...WE'D  
ALL BE BEST  
RID OF THESE  
CIRCUM-  
STANCES,  
BUT...

...FOR  
LONG  
YEARS,  
THERE'S  
BEEN NO  
WAY TO  
CHANGE  
THEM.



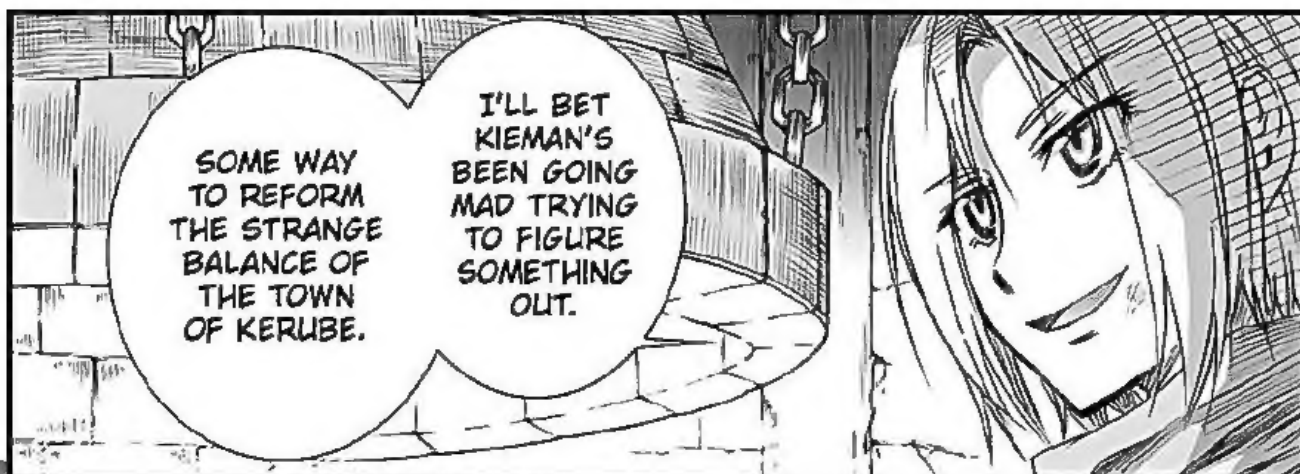
"WHEN'LL  
THE BARGAIN  
BE PROPERLY  
STRUCK?"  
HE'LL ASK.





AND THE  
YOUNGER  
GENERATION IS  
FRUSTRATED  
AS WELL.

IT'S TRUE  
FOR BOTH  
THE NORTH  
AND SOUTH  
SIDES ALIKE.



SOME WAY  
TO REFORM  
THE STRANGE  
BALANCE OF  
THE TOWN  
OF KERUBE.

I'LL BET  
KIEMAN'S  
BEEN GOING  
MAD TRYING  
TO FIGURE  
SOMETHING  
OUT.

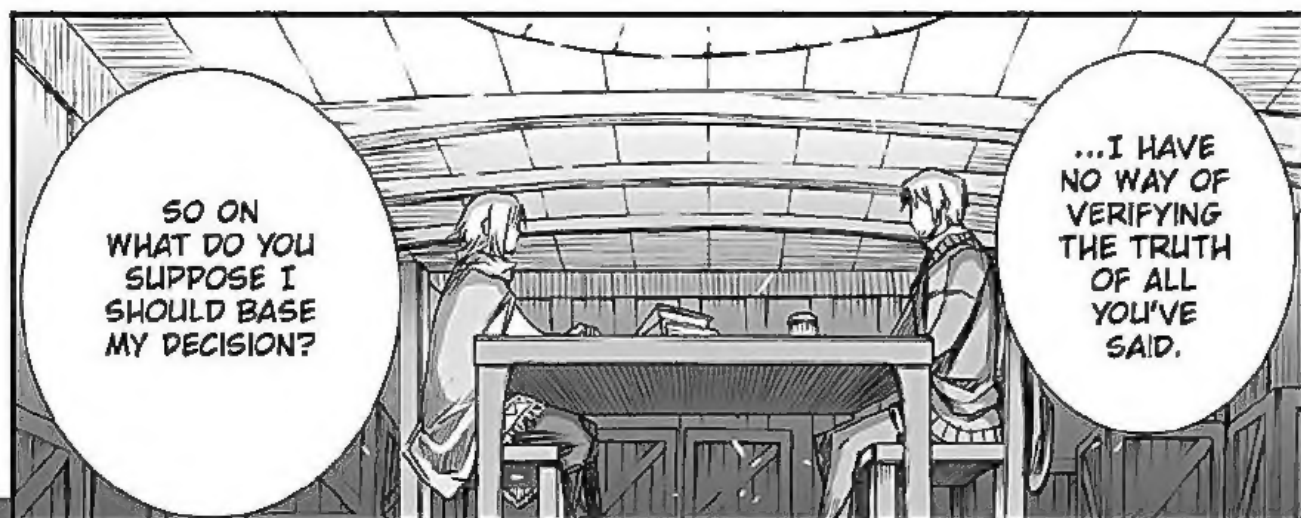


CLEVERLY,  
RATIONALLY,  
THEN...

...HE'S JUST  
TRYING TO  
DECIDE WHO  
TO USE AND  
HOW?



TO  
OUTWIT  
THE OTHER  
COMPANIES  
MAKE A  
NAME FOR  
HIMSELF.  
AND TRADE  
GUILDS  
ALONG  
THE WAY.



SO ON  
WHAT DO YOU  
SUPPOSE I  
SHOULD BASE  
MY DECISION?

...I HAVE  
NO WAY OF  
VERIFYING  
THE TRUTH  
OF ALL  
YOU'VE  
SAID.

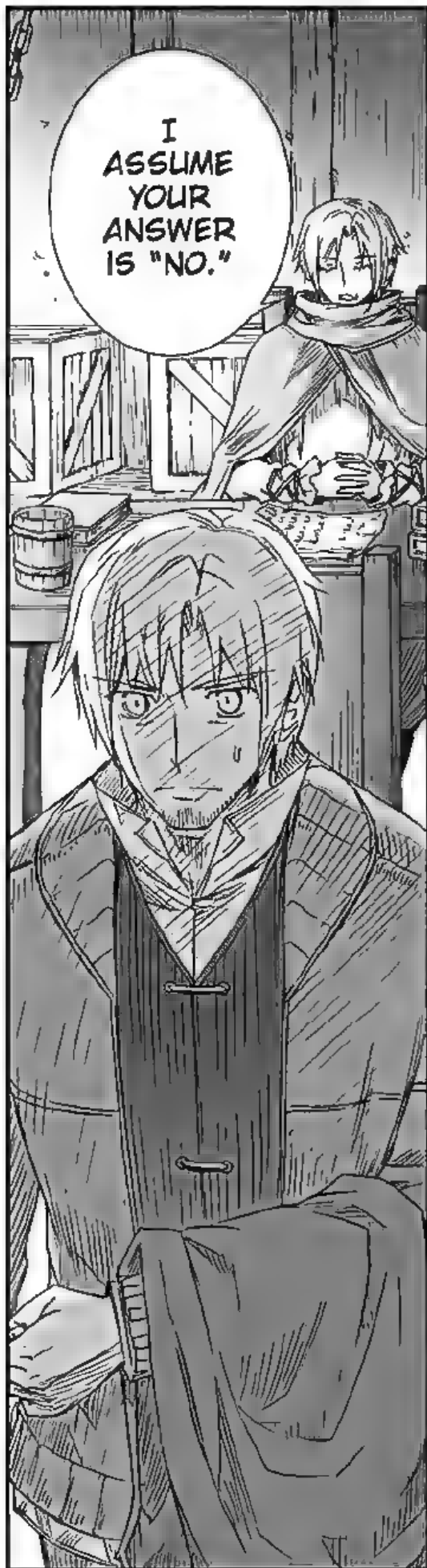


SUSPECT  
DECEPTION,  
BUT SEE  
WHERE IT  
TAKES YOU.




THE  
MERCHANTS  
OF OLD HAD  
A SAYING.










GIVEN  
THAT YOU'RE  
CONNECTED TO ME,  
FROM THE NORTH,  
AND HIM, FROM THE  
SOUTH, AND YOU'RE  
NOT FROM THIS  
TOWN...

KIEMAN WILL  
LIKELY ASK  
FOR...NO,  
DEMAND YOUR  
COOPERATION.



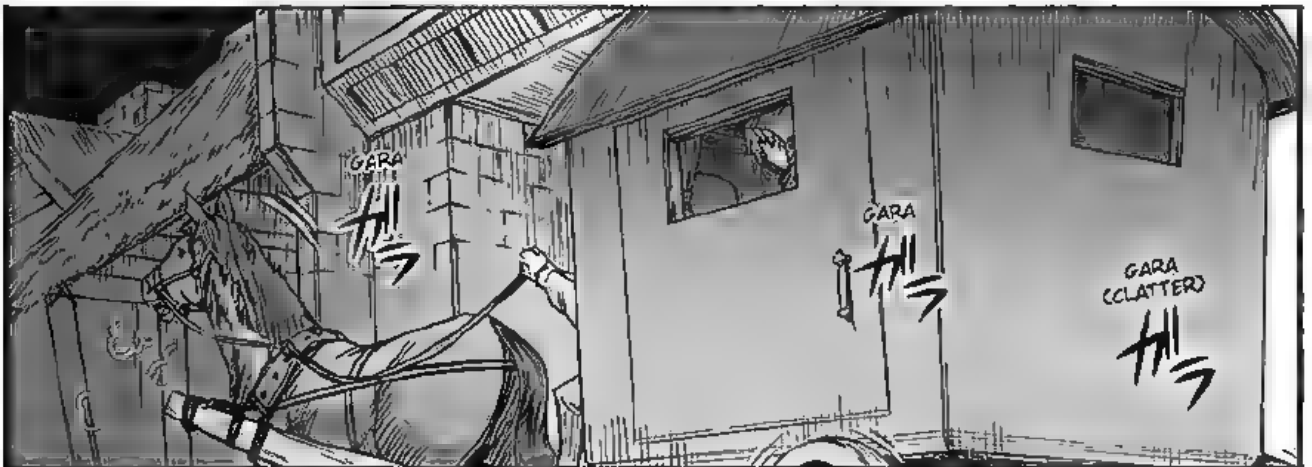
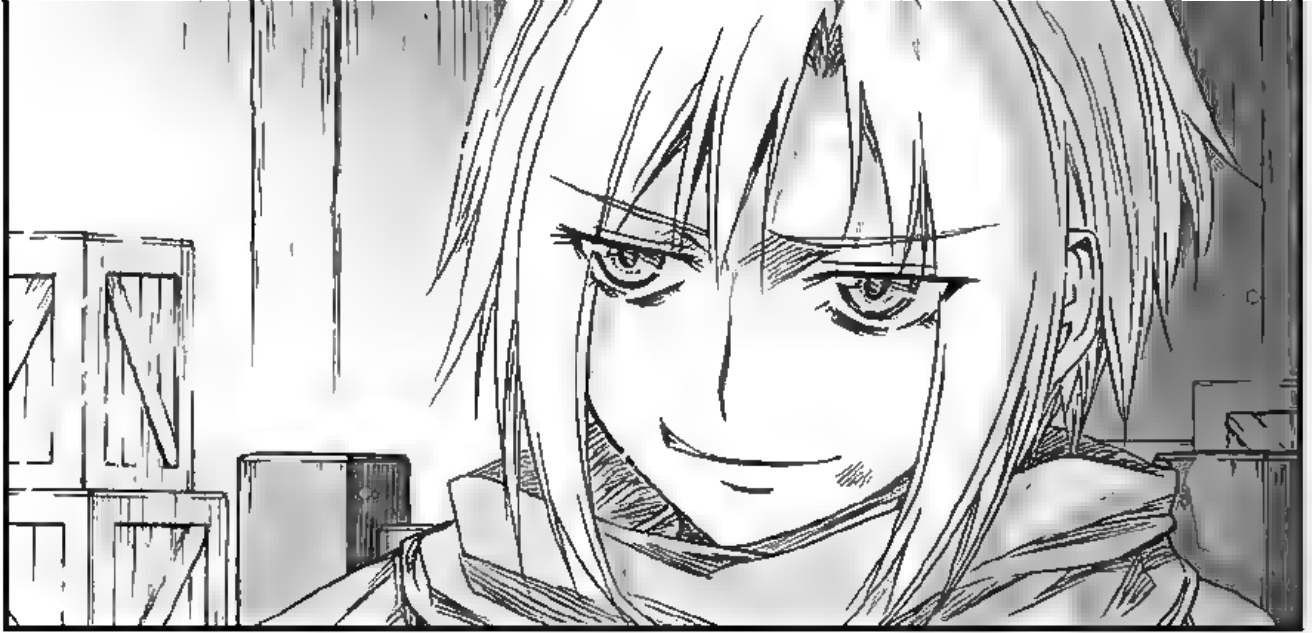
YOU WERE  
FOLLOWING  
THE STORIES  
OF THE  
FORBIDDEN  
BOOK,  
WEREN'T  
YOU?



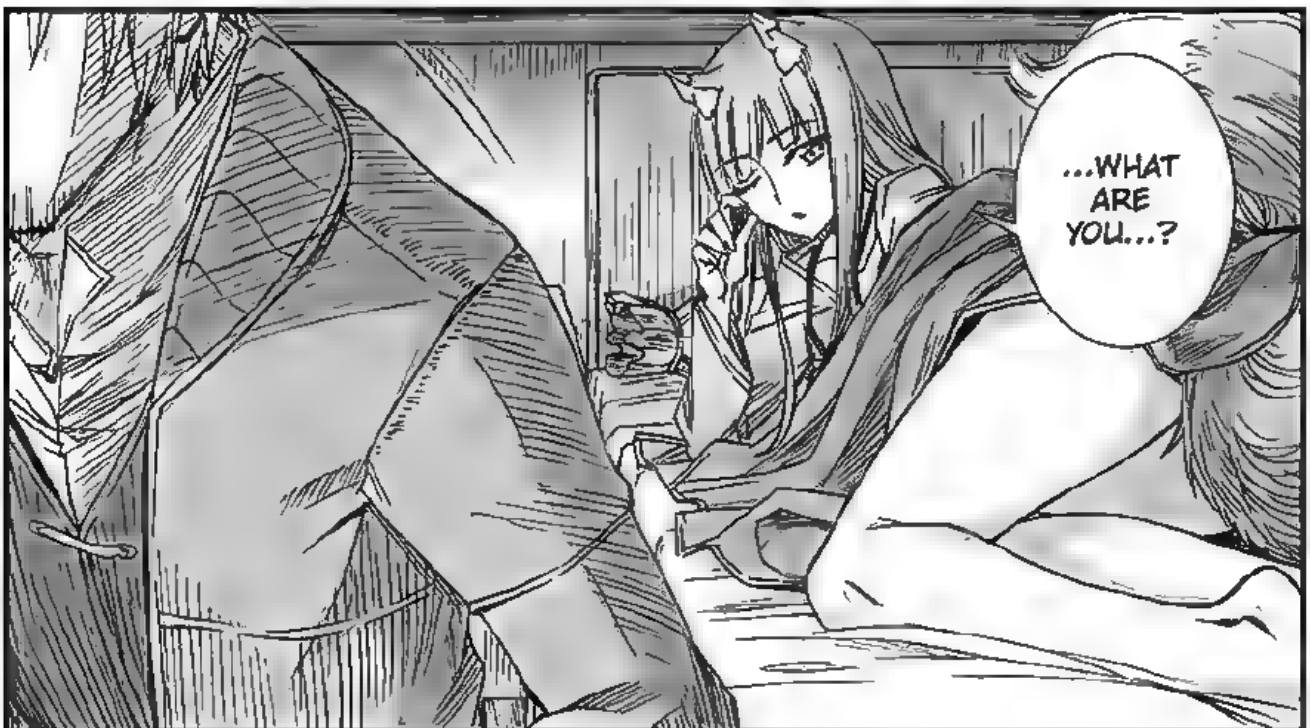
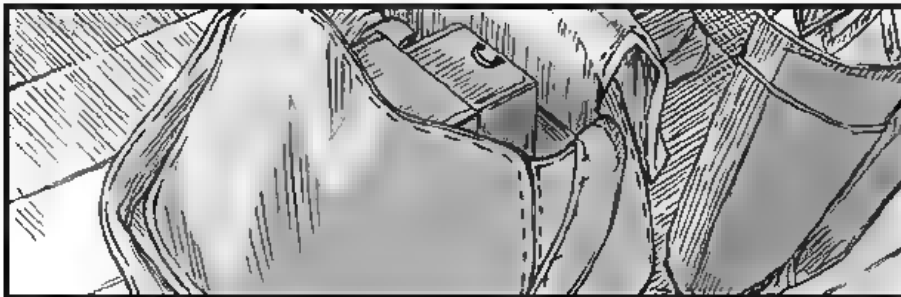
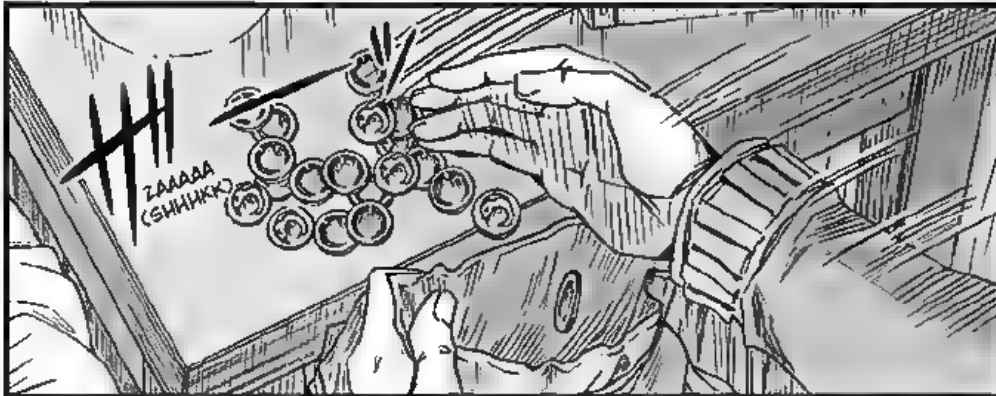
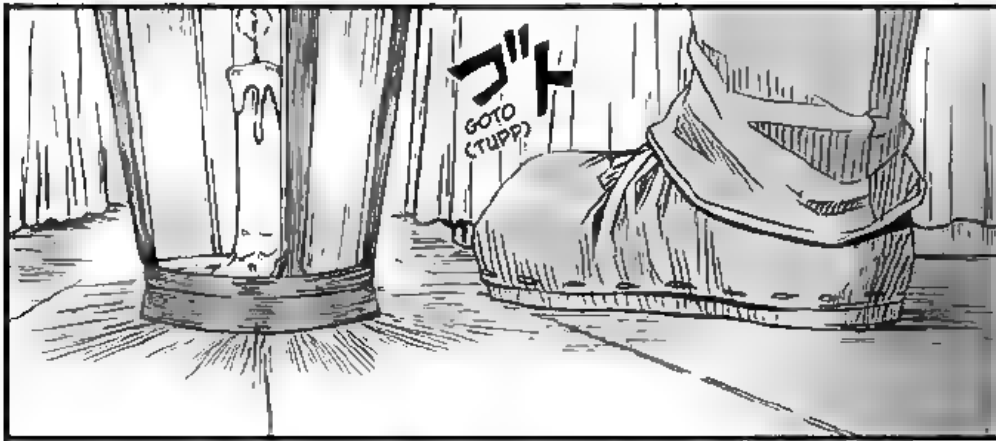
IF I  
ASK HIM TO,  
I'M SURE I  
CAN HAVE HIM  
WHISPER THE  
NAME OF HIS  
PROSPECTIVE  
CONTACT  
TO ME.

...TED  
REYNOLDS  
OF THE JEAN  
COMPANY  
WANTS TO  
USE MY CON-  
NECTIONS.





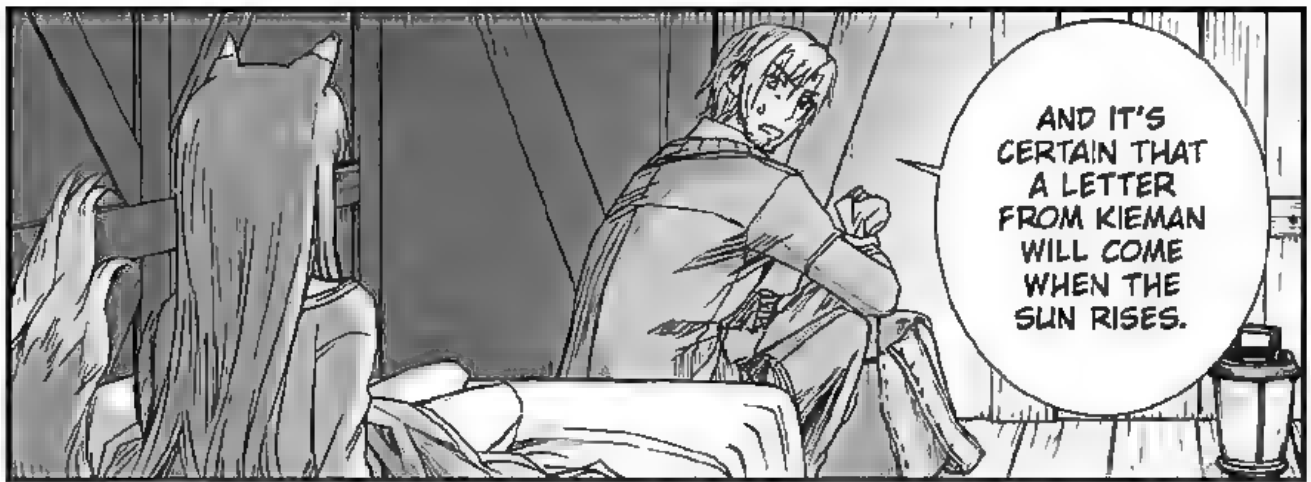




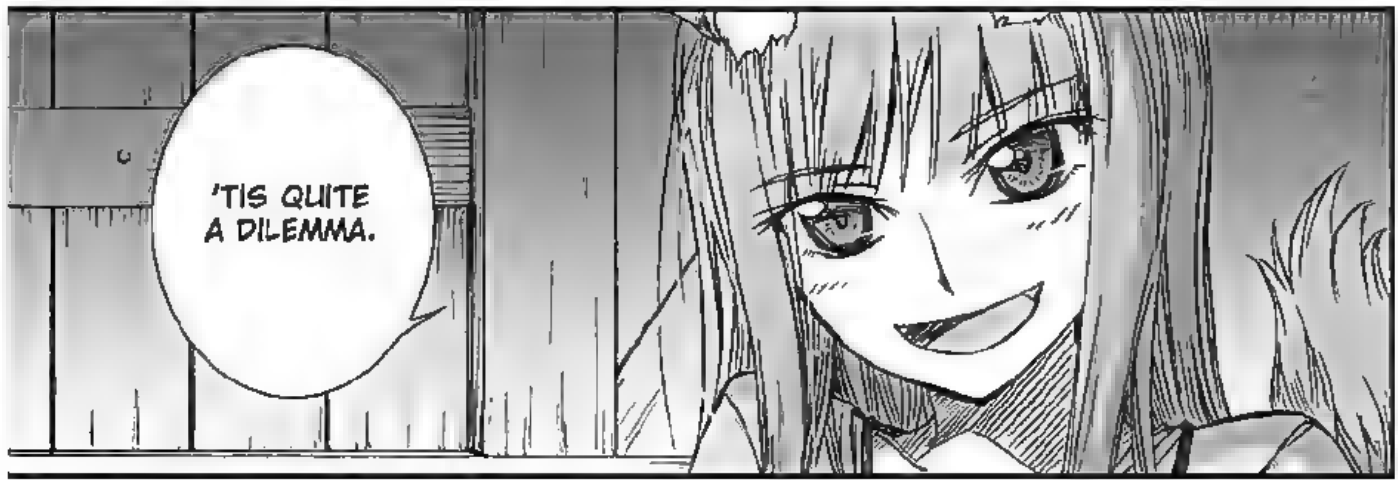








AND IT'S  
CERTAIN THAT  
A LETTER  
FROM KIEMAN  
WILL COME  
WHEN THE  
SUN RISES.



'TIS QUITE  
A DILEMMA.



MM.

IF I GET  
INVOLVED,  
I'LL BE  
A MERE  
PAWN FOR  
THOSE MORE  
POWERFUL  
THAN ME.

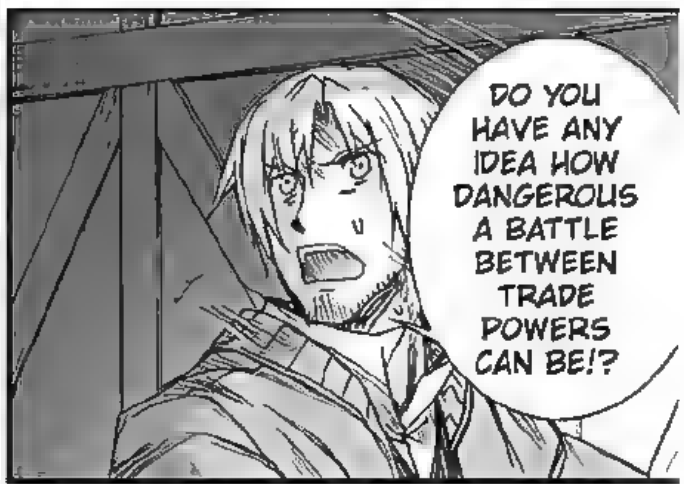


SO WE'RE  
RUNNING OFF  
LIKE LOVERS  
IN THE NIGHT,  
THEN, ARE  
WE?



MOST  
CREATURES  
HAVE TWO  
EYES BUT  
CAN SEE  
BUT ONE  
IMAGE.

DO YOU KNOW  
WHY MALES AND  
FEMALES GO TO  
SUCH LENGTHS  
TO BOND WITH  
EACH OTHER?



DO YOU  
HAVE ANY  
IDEA HOW  
DANGEROUS  
A BATTLE  
BETWEEN  
TRADE  
POWERS  
CAN BE!?



OF COURSE  
YOU DO!!







COME,  
NOW...  
WHAT IS  
HAPPENING  
IN THIS  
TOWN?



WE'VE NO  
OBLIGATION  
TO DO AS YOU  
TELL US.

AM I  
WRONG?



WHAT I ASK  
FOR IS AN  
EXPLANATION.

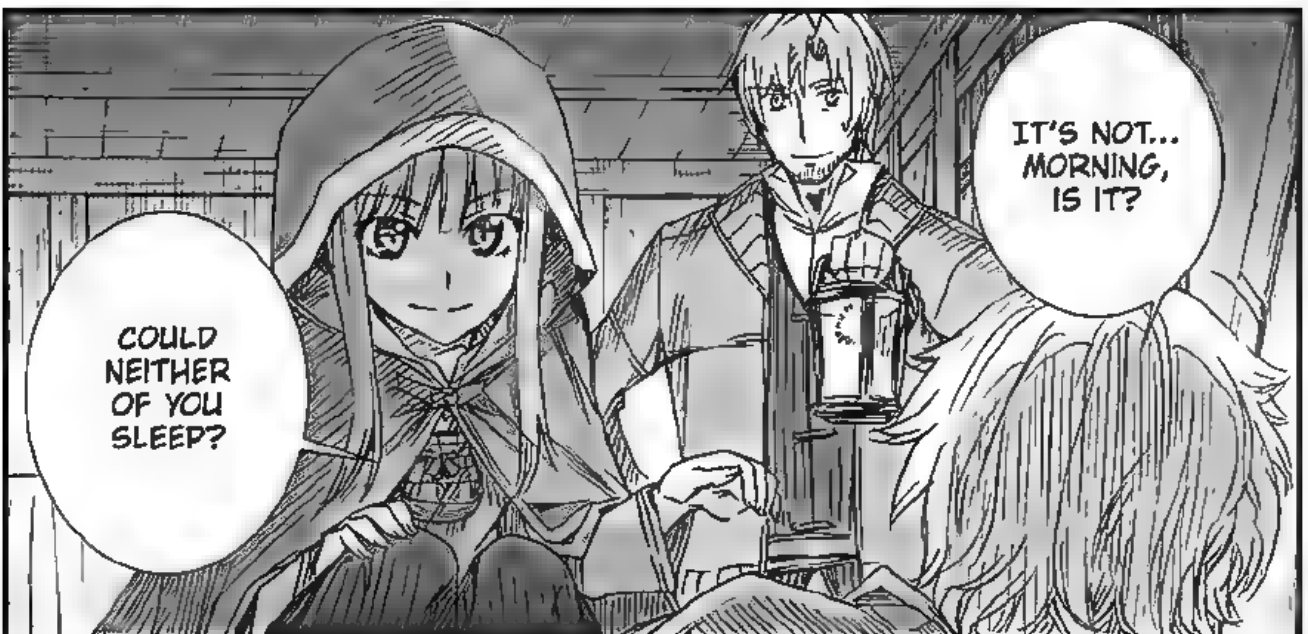


SAVE YOUR  
APOLOGIES  
FOR LATER.  
YOUR EXCUSES  
ARE WASTED  
ON ME.

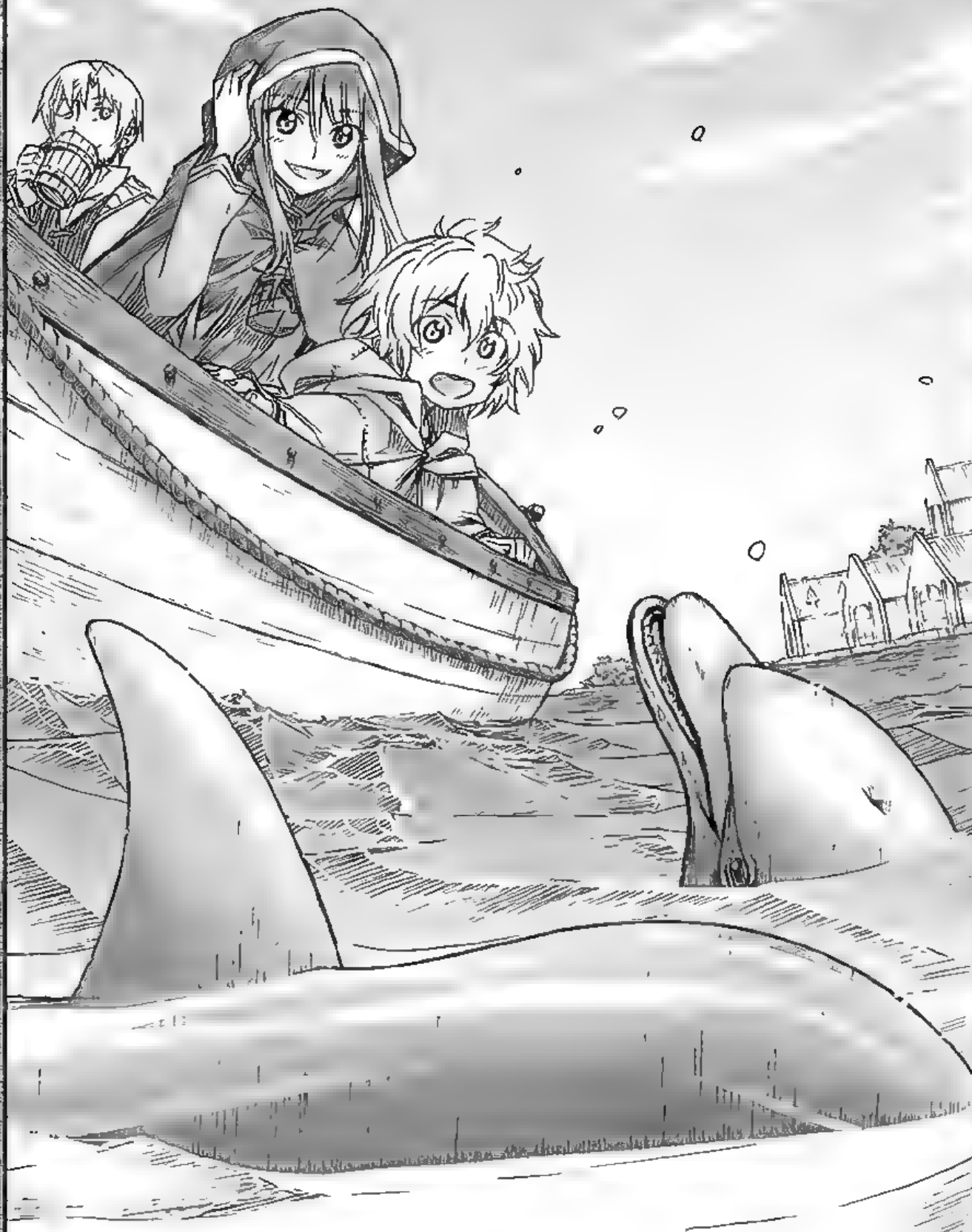
SPICE & WOLF







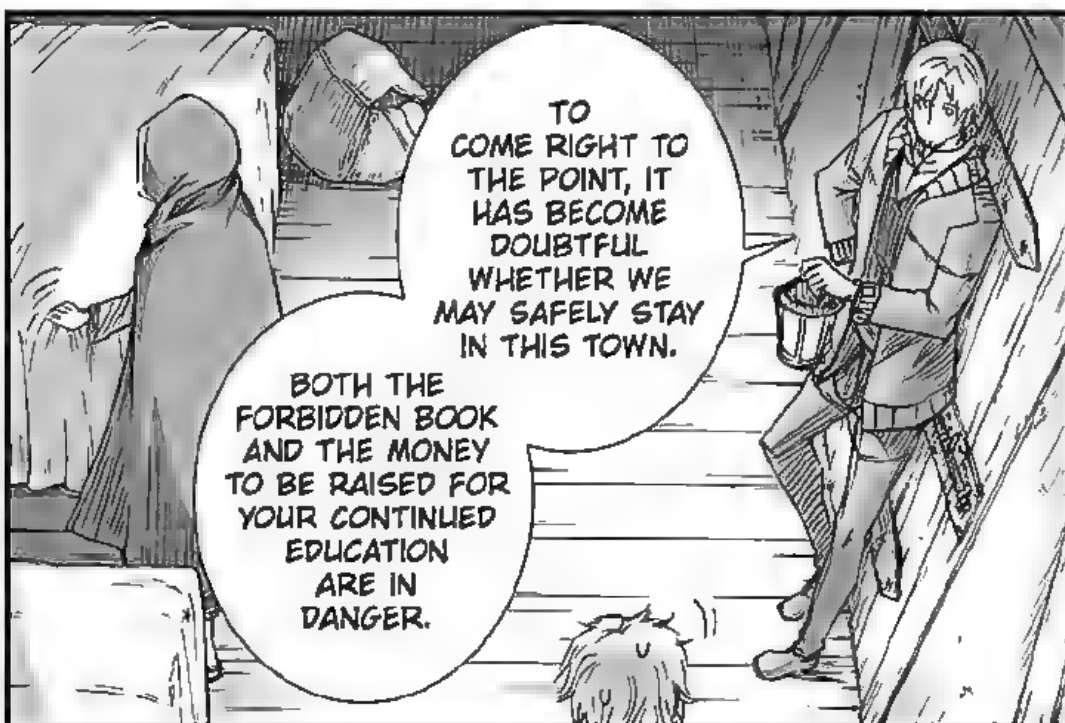
# SPICE & WOLF





I WANT  
YOU TO  
STAY CALM  
AND LISTEN  
CAREFULLY.

COL,  
WE'VE GOT  
SOMETHING  
VERY  
IMPORTANT  
TO DISCUSS.



TO  
COME RIGHT TO  
THE POINT, IT  
HAS BECOME  
DOUBTFUL  
WHETHER WE  
MAY SAFELY STAY  
IN THIS TOWN.

BOTH THE  
FORBIDDEN BOOK  
AND THE MONEY  
TO BE RAISED FOR  
YOUR CONTINUED  
EDUCATION  
ARE IN  
DANGER.



...BUT FIRST  
THERE'S  
SOMETHING  
YOU NEED TO  
BE SHOWN.



WH-WHAT  
DO YOU  
MEAN...?

THIS  
FOOL IS  
ABOUT TO  
EXPLAIN  
IT ALL TO  
YOU...





**'TIS A  
CRISIS THAT  
AFFECTS  
US ALL.**

**AND YOU  
OUGHT TO  
KNOW ALL THE  
WEAPONS WE  
HAVE AT OUR  
DISPOSAL.**

SHE APPEARS  
AS A HUMAN  
NOW, BUT HER  
TRUE FORM IS  
A GREAT WOLF,  
ONE AS BIG AS  
THIS ENTIRE  
BUILDING.

I AM HOLO THE  
WISEWOLF. YOU  
MAY THINK OF ME  
AS A BEING NOT  
SO DIFFERENT  
FROM THE FROG  
SPIRIT YOUR OWN  
VILLAGE WORSHIPS.

EARS  
AND A  
TAIL...





THAT  
SHE WOULD  
TELL ME  
THE TRUTH,  
I MEAN.

SO I'M  
SURPRISED...  
BUT ALSO  
RATHER  
HAPPY.





SUCH A  
DISTANT  
MEMORY...



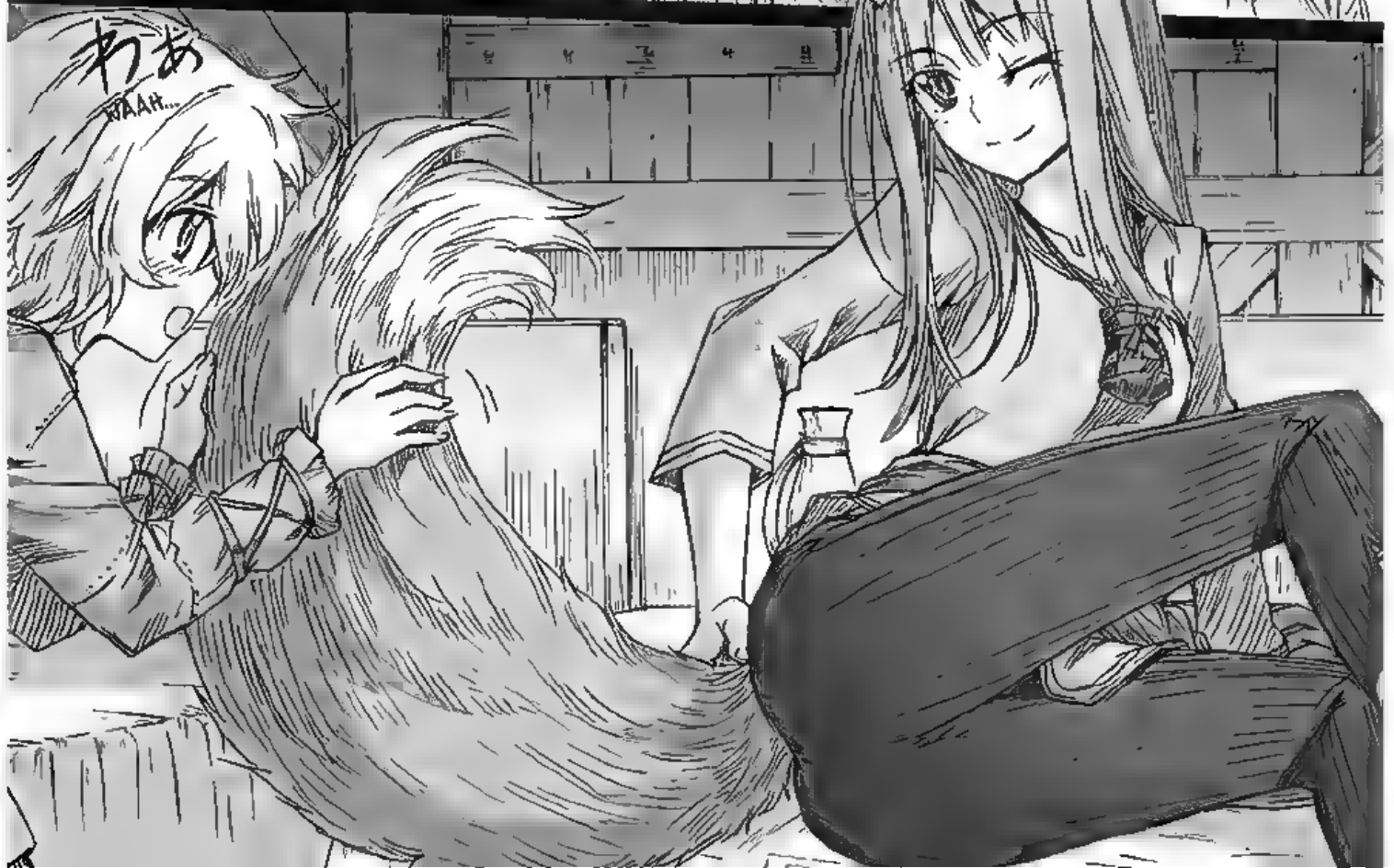
THERE  
YOU ARE!





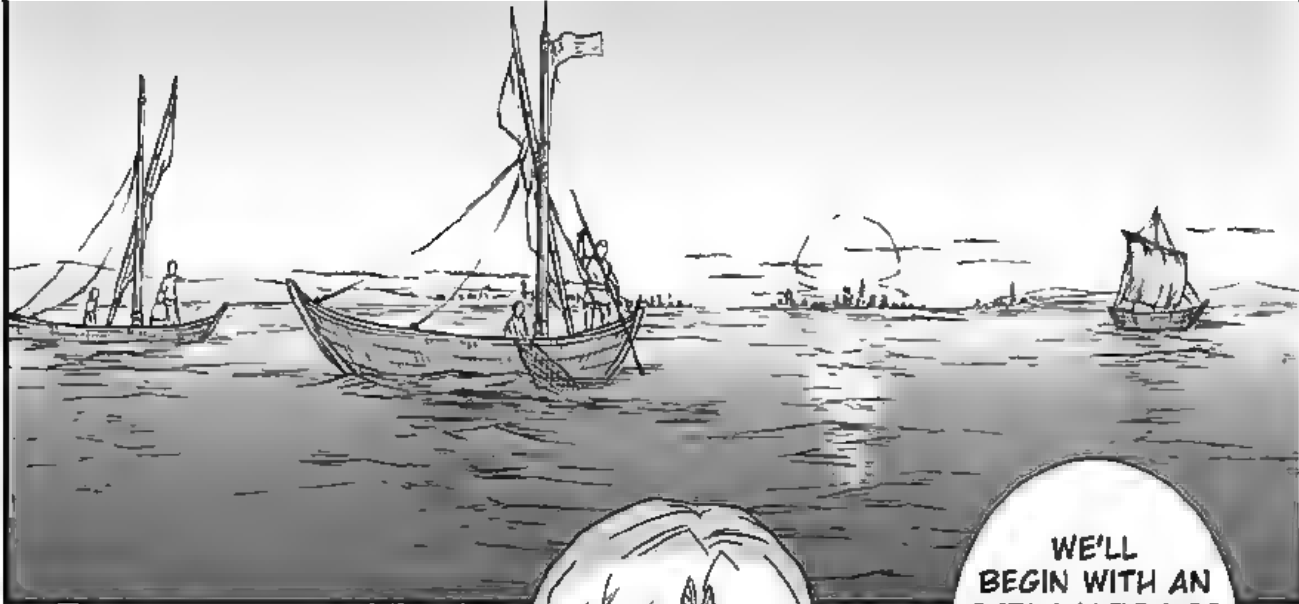
HE  
WANTED  
ME TO  
LET HIM  
TOUCH MY  
TAIL  
TOO...

IT  
BRINGS  
TO MIND  
THAT  
OTHER  
LITTLE  
FOOL...









WE'LL  
BEGIN WITH AN  
EXPLANATION OF  
THE TROUBLE  
THAT'S BESET  
THIS TOWN.

IT BEGAN  
WHEN A FISHING  
BOAT FROM THE  
NORTH SIDE OF  
TOWN ACCIDENT-  
ALLY CAUGHT  
A NARWHAL.



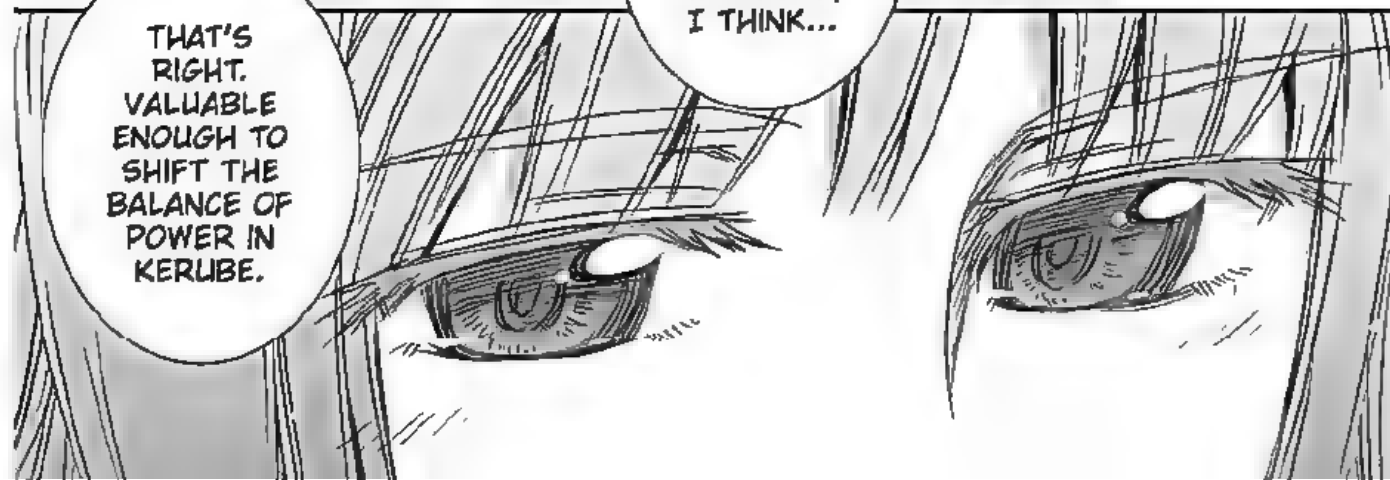
THEY HAVE  
AMAZING  
MEDICINAL  
POWERS,  
DON'T  
THEY?

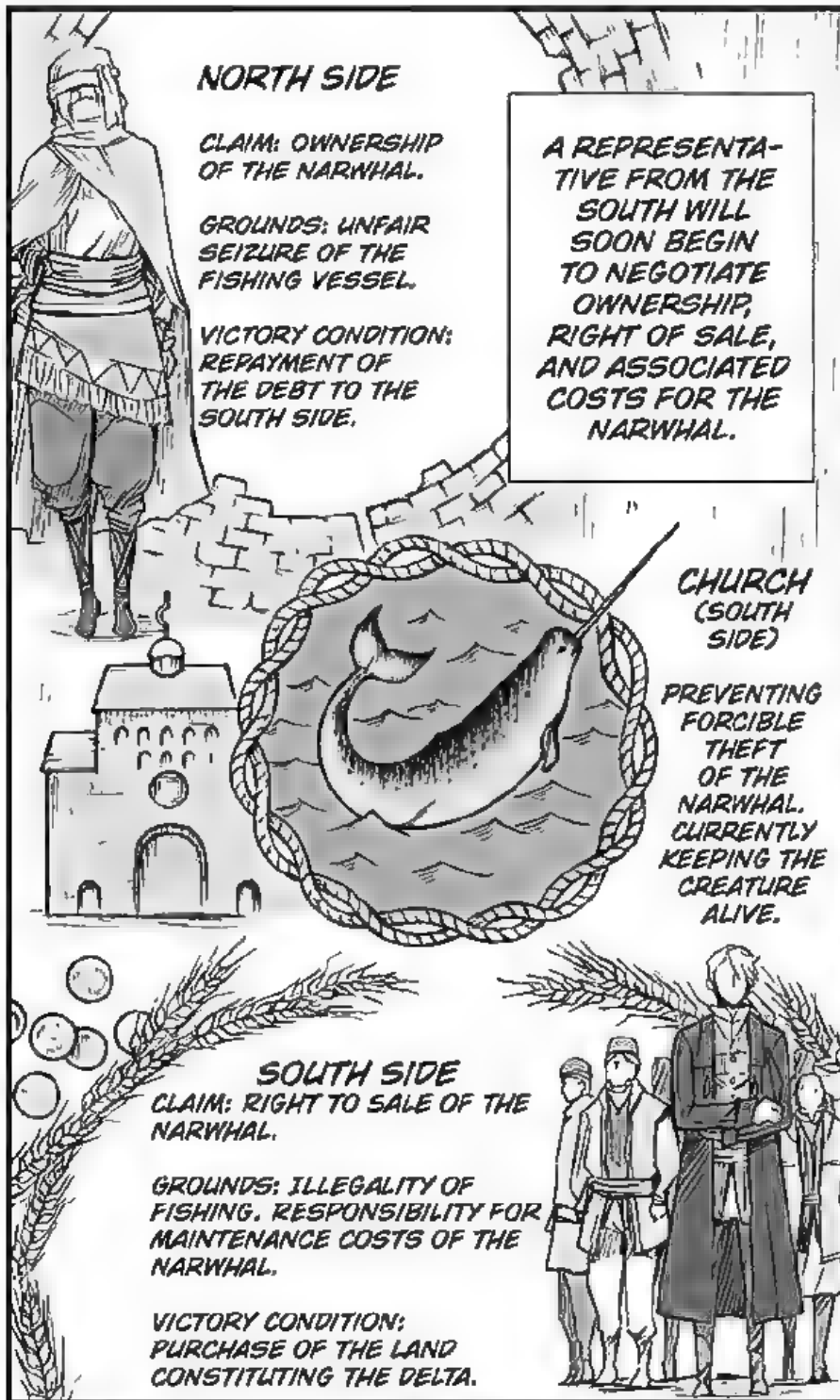
LONG LIFE...  
THE CURE  
FOR GOUT...

A  
NARWHAL...  
I'VE ONLY  
SEEN THEM  
IN BOOKS.

THEY'RE  
SUPPOSED  
TO BE  
TERRIBLY  
VALUABLE,  
I THINK...

THAT'S  
RIGHT.  
VALUABLE  
ENOUGH TO  
SHIFT THE  
BALANCE OF  
POWER IN  
KERUBE.





NO DOUBT THEY WITNESSED IT CATCH THE NARWHAL.

BUT A MERCHANT SHIP FROM THE SOUTH CAPTURED THE FISHING BOAT, ON THE GROUNDS THAT IT WAS OUTSIDE ITS TERRITORY.



IF THE NARWHAL IS RETURNED TO THE NORTH SIDE, THEN THE NORTH WILL BE ABLE TO REPAY THE DEBT INCURRED BY THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE DELTA.

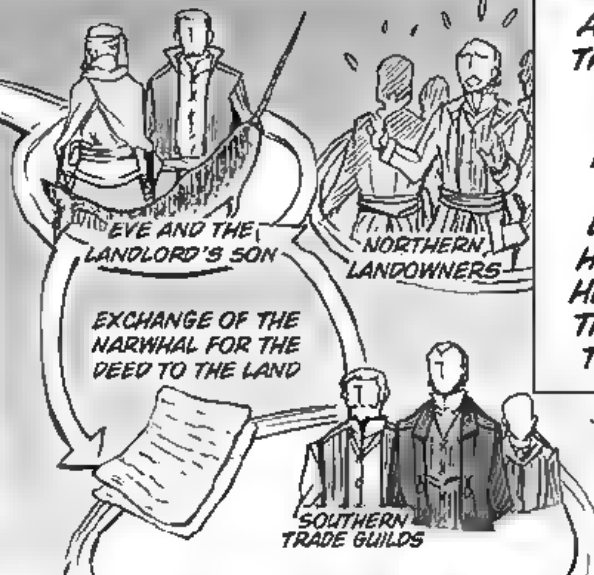
AND THE SOUTH SIDE WILL NO LONGER BE ABLE TO EXPLOIT THE NORTH SIDE.



THE SITUATION'S COMPLICATED ENOUGH ALREADY...

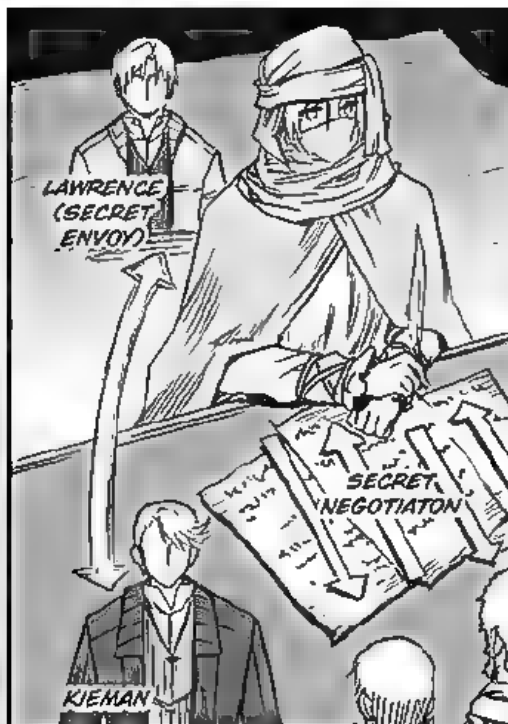
ESCAPE TO THE  
LAND FARTHER  
SOUTH

BUT BEHIND ALL  
THIS, A LANDLORD'S  
SON IS INVITING  
HER TO TRADE THE  
LAND DEED FOR  
THE NARWHAL AND  
ESCAPE WITH HIM.



AMID ALL THIS,  
THE NORTH HAS  
ENTRUSTED  
THEIR  
NEGOTIATION  
TO EVE. THE  
LANDOWNERS  
HAVE ORDERED  
HER TO SECURE  
THE RETURN OF  
THE NARWHAL.

SO THAT'S  
HOW I WOUND  
UP AS THE  
KEY TO THE  
DEAL FOR  
BOTH SIDES.



MOST LIKELY,  
KIEMAN IS ALSO  
TRYING TO  
USE THE FACT  
THAT I KNOW  
EVE AND THAT  
I'M NOT FROM  
THIS TOWN...

...TO  
STEAL AN  
ADVANTAGE  
OVER THE  
OTHER  
TRADING  
COMPANIES  
AND ADVANCE  
HIS OWN  
CAREER.

SOUTH SIDE  
MERCHANTS

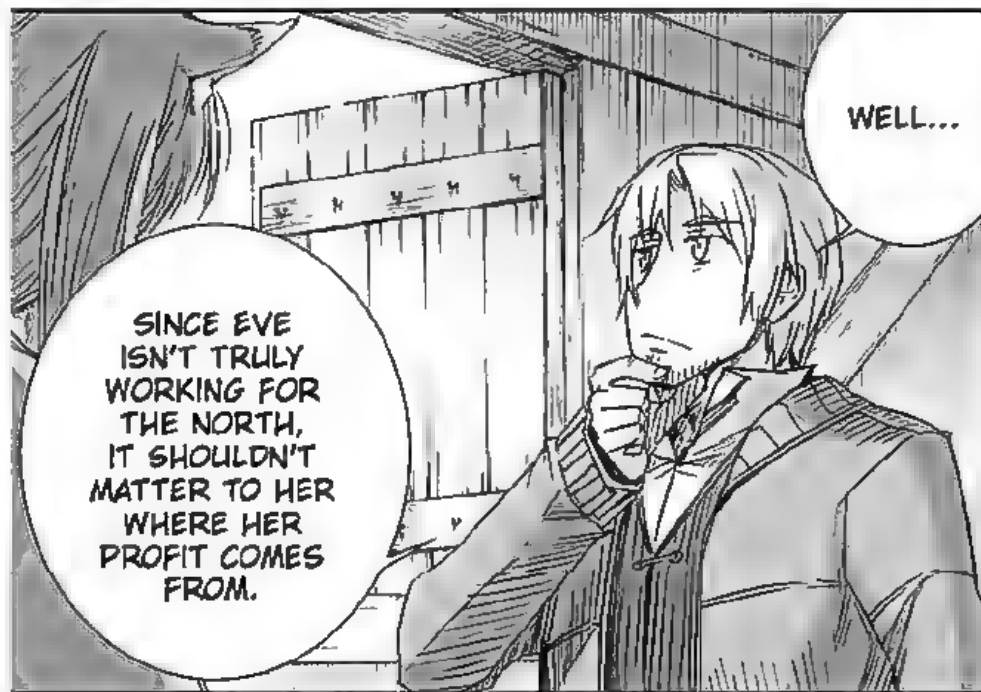
EVE IS MERELY  
PRETENDING  
TO GO ALONG  
WITH THIS, AND  
SHE'S ASKED  
FOR MY AID IN  
HELPING HER  
BETRAY THE  
POOR FOOL.



AN OUTSIDER  
LIKE ME COULD  
SECRETLY  
NEGOTIATE  
WITH THE  
SOUTH WITHOUT  
ALERTING THE  
LANDLORD'S  
SON.







SINCE EVE  
ISN'T TRULY  
WORKING FOR  
THE NORTH,  
IT SHOULDN'T  
MATTER TO HER  
WHERE HER  
PROFIT COMES  
FROM.

WELL...



IS THERE  
NO SOLUTION  
THAT WOULD  
SATISFY ALL  
PARTIES?



SHE SHOULDN'T  
MIND RECEIVING  
HER PROFIT  
FROM THE GUILD,  
SO IT'S POSSIBLE  
THAT BOTH EVE  
AND THE GUILD  
COULD WIN.



...THAT  
COULD  
WORK.

SO AS  
LONG AS SHE  
DOESN'T BETRAY  
BOTH ME AND  
THE GUILD IN  
ORDER TO TAKE  
EVERYTHING  
FOR HERSELF...



ALTERNATIVELY,  
I COULD ACT  
IN FAVOR OF  
THE GUILD'S  
PROFIT AND  
TRY TO  
EXCLUDE EVE  
ENTIRELY.

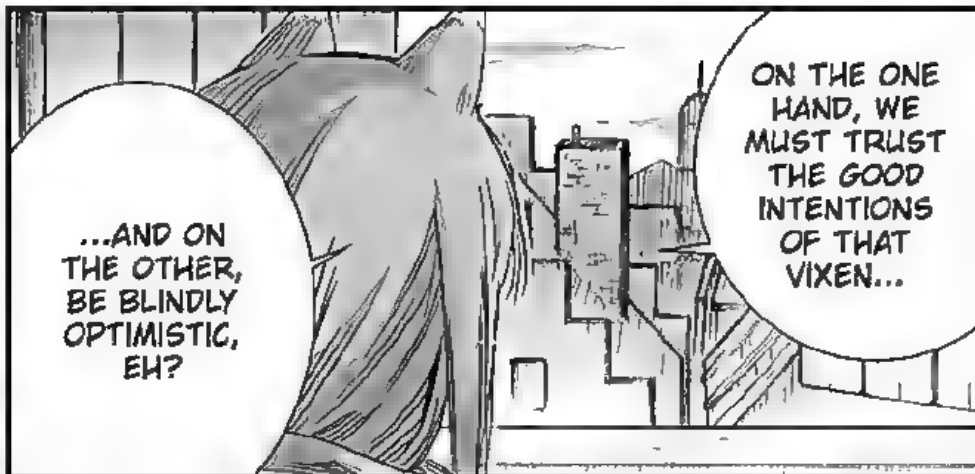


HMM...

SO  
THAT'S  
IT.



...AND ON  
THE OTHER,  
BE BLINDLY  
OPTIMISTIC,  
EH?



ON THE ONE  
HAND, WE  
MUST TRUST  
THE GOOD  
INTENTIONS  
OF THAT  
VIXEN...



SO YOU'RE  
LEFT WITH  
DISCRETION  
BEING THE  
BETTER PART  
OF VALOR,  
EH?

RIGHT.



IF I GET  
INVOLVED, I  
CAN'T HELP BUT  
BE A PUPPET  
FOR THOSE  
ABOVE ME.



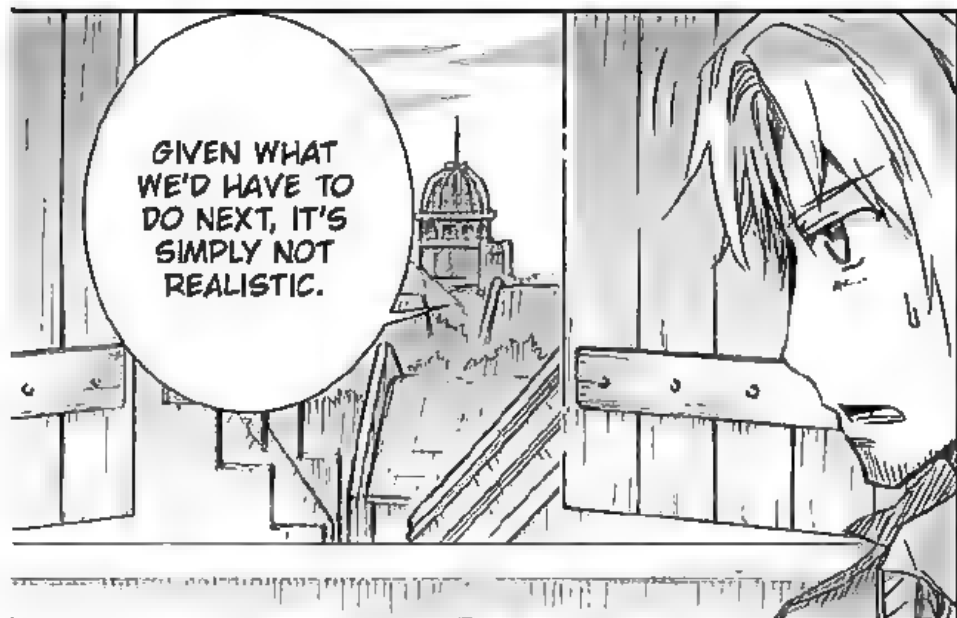
THIS IS ALL  
GUESSWORK  
BASED ON  
WHAT I'VE  
BEEN ABLE  
TO LEARN.

IN SUCH  
A VAST  
OPERATION,  
THERE IS  
TOO MUCH  
I DON'T  
KNOW.

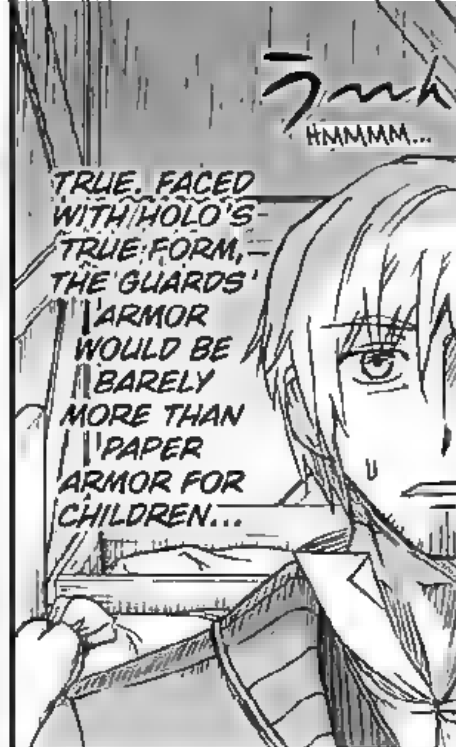








GIVEN WHAT WE'D HAVE TO DO NEXT, IT'S SIMPLY NOT REALISTIC.



hmmmm...

TRUE. FACED WITH HOLO'S TRUE FORM, THE GUARDS' ARMOR WOULD BE BARELY MORE THAN PAPER ARMOR FOR CHILDREN...



I'M WELL AWARE OF THAT.


AND EVEN IF YOU COULD SELL IT TO SOMEONE, IN HANDING IT OVER, YOU'D CERTAINLY COME UNDER THE EYE OF THE CHURCH.

IF YOU SIMPLY TOOK THE NARWHAL AS IT IS, YOU'D OBVIOUSLY BE SEEN.



YOU MUST HAVE SEEN HOW SIMPLE THIS ALL TRULY IS, HAVE YOU NOT?

HOWEVER.



SO MUCH  
THE FOOL  
ME, FOR  
CHOOSING  
YOU, I  
SUPPOSE.

...I SHALL  
TEAR OPEN  
WITH MY  
TEETH AND  
CLAWS.

...HUH?

YOU  
HAVEN'T,  
THEN?

THE  
MATTER  
THAT HAS  
YOU SO  
TERRIFIED  
THAT YOU CAN  
THINK ONLY  
OF ESCAPE...

TO HAVE MY  
COMPANION  
IN SUCH A  
DITHER OVER  
THIS IS QUITE  
A PROBLEM  
FOR ME.

.....









DID YOU  
NOT TELL  
ME...

...YOU  
WERE A  
MALE GOOD  
FOR MORE  
THAN MERE  
WORDS?



AYE.

FINE, FINE!  
WE'LL TAKE  
ESCAPE  
OUT OF THE  
DISCUSSION.



BUBAA  
(SPFFD)

NO, BECAUSE  
YOU'VE NO NEED  
TO WORRY OVER  
WHO TO SELL  
THIS SEA-BEAST  
TO ONCE IT'S  
BETWEEN MY  
JAWS.



BECAUSE  
YOU'LL BE  
HERE,  
SHOULD  
THE WORST  
HAPPEN?



SO NOW  
YOU CAN  
RELAX  
THOSE  
SHOULDERS  
OF YOURS.



...I SUPPOSE  
IT'S NOT  
SURPRISING I  
DIDN'T THINK  
OF THAT  
MYSELF.

...IF THE  
PUPS BEGIN  
FIGHTING  
OVER A SCRAP  
OF MEAT,  
THE BEST  
SOLUTION  
IS TO JUST  
EAT IT.

JUST AS  
THE BOY  
COL SAID...





NOT SO.



IT MERELY  
PROVES  
HOW LITTLE  
YOU WERE  
CONSIDERING  
ME.



...WOULD NEVER  
OCCUR TO ANY  
MERCHANT  
ANYWHERE.

THE  
NOTION OF  
SWALLOWING  
WHOLE A  
CREATURE SO  
UNTHINKABLY  
VALUABLE...



ALSO...

7/7  
THEE

7/7  
HEE



SO YOU'LL  
SHOW ME SUCH  
CLEVERNESS  
AS TO IMPRESS  
EVEN A  
WISEWOLF,  
THEN?

GUI  
(GRAB)

...YOU ARE  
INDEED THE  
WISEWOLF OF  
YOITSU, BUT  
THAT'S NOT WHY  
I CHOSE YOU AS  
MY TRAVELING  
COMPANION.

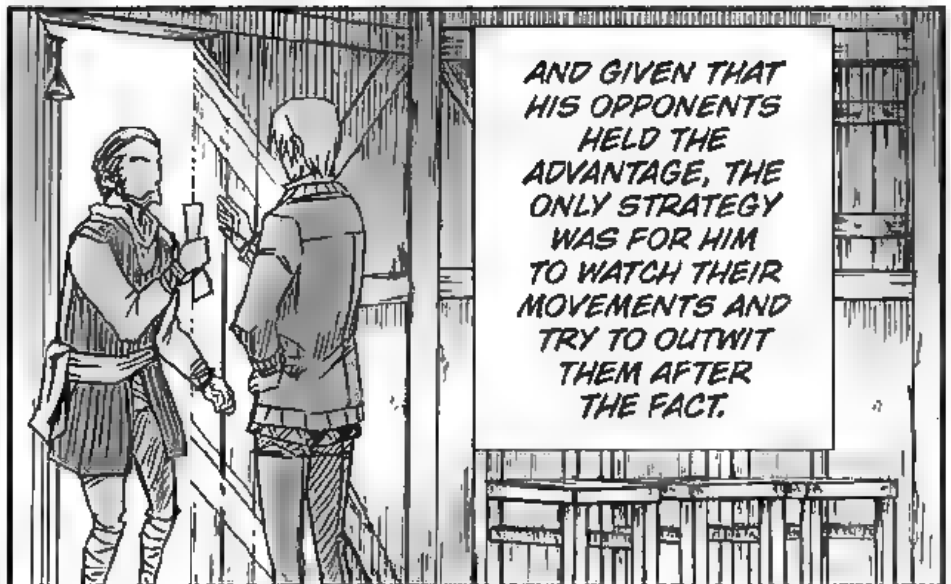
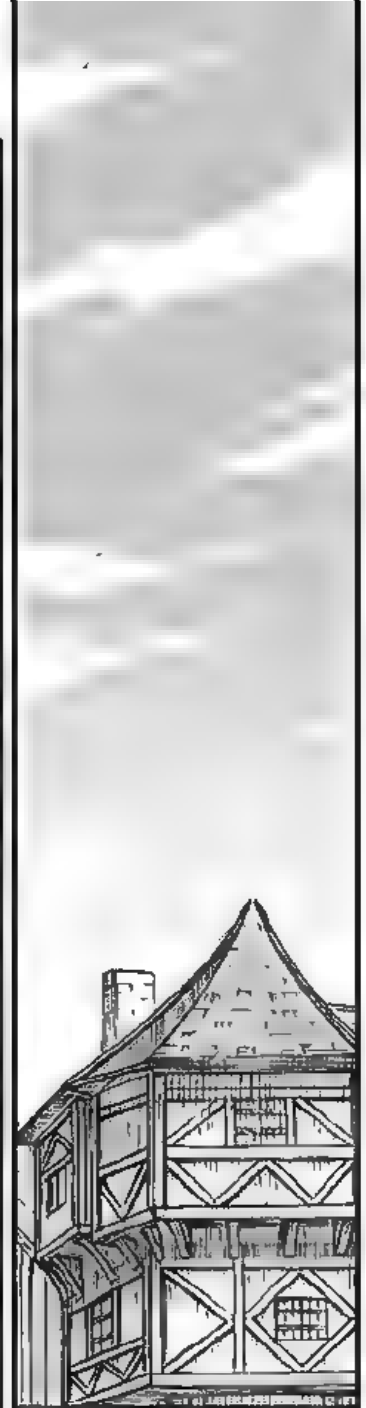
BUT OF  
COURSE!



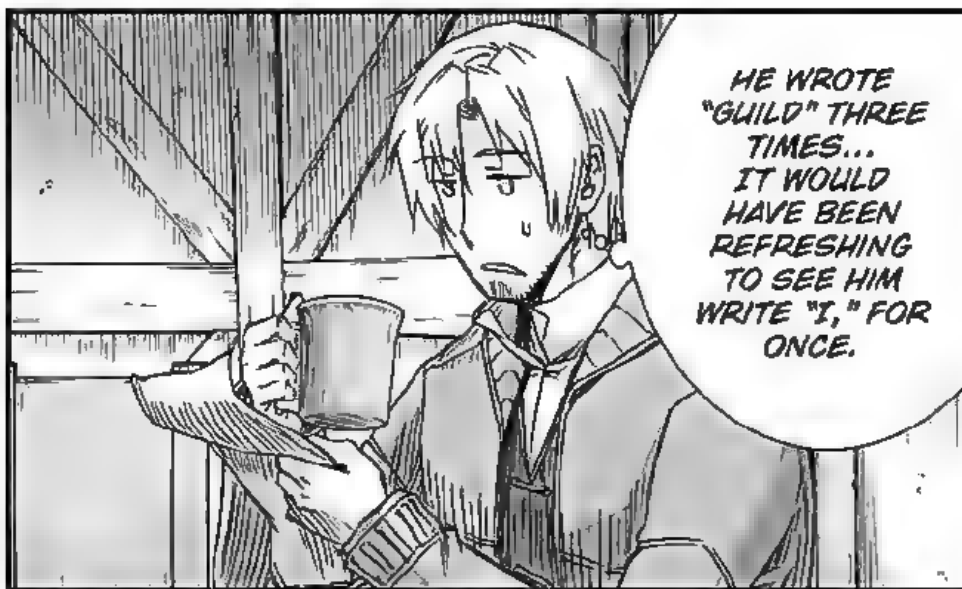
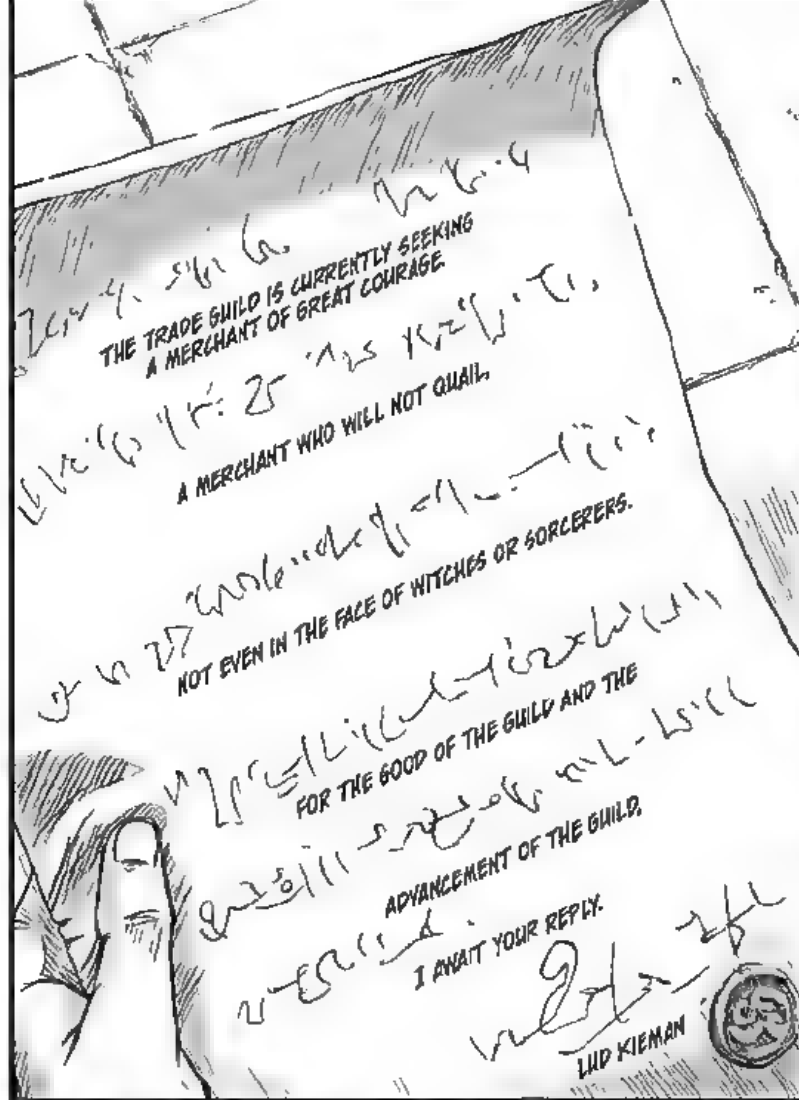
IF HE WAS  
NOTICED TRYING  
TO COLLECT  
INFORMATION  
BY HIMSELF, IT  
WOULDN'T LEAVE A  
VERY FAVORABLE  
IMPRESSION ON  
EITHER KIEMAN  
OR EVE.



HE CONCLUDED  
THAT, HAVING  
GIRDED HIS LOINS,  
HE WOULD WAIT  
FOR KIEMAN TO  
CONTACT HIM.



AND GIVEN THAT  
HIS OPPONENTS  
HELD THE  
ADVANTAGE, THE  
ONLY STRATEGY  
WAS FOR HIM  
TO WATCH THEIR  
MOVEMENTS AND  
TRY TO OUTWIT  
THEM AFTER  
THE FACT.





LISTEN  
WELL,  
KRAFT.

ESPECIALLY  
FOR TRAVELING  
MERCHANTS LIKE  
US, MOST OF OUR  
BUSINESS IS DONE  
ONE-ON-ONE.

NEVER  
INVOLVE  
YOURSELF IN  
A BUSINESS  
YOU DON'T  
KNOW.

MR.  
LAWRENCE!

IF YOU  
SHOULD EVER FIND  
YOURSELF INVITED  
TO PARTICIPATE IN  
SOME GUILD'S BIG  
TRADE IN A TOWN  
SOMEWHERE, IT'S  
BEST TO IGNORE IT.

YOU'LL  
NEARLY  
ALWAYS BE  
PLAYED FOR  
A FOOL.





MIGHT  
WE SPEAK  
FOR A  
MOMENT?

OH,  
GOOD...  
I WAS  
WORRIED  
YOU'D  
LEFT.

はあ  
HAA  
(PANT)

はあ  
HAA



SHALL  
WE GO  
UP?

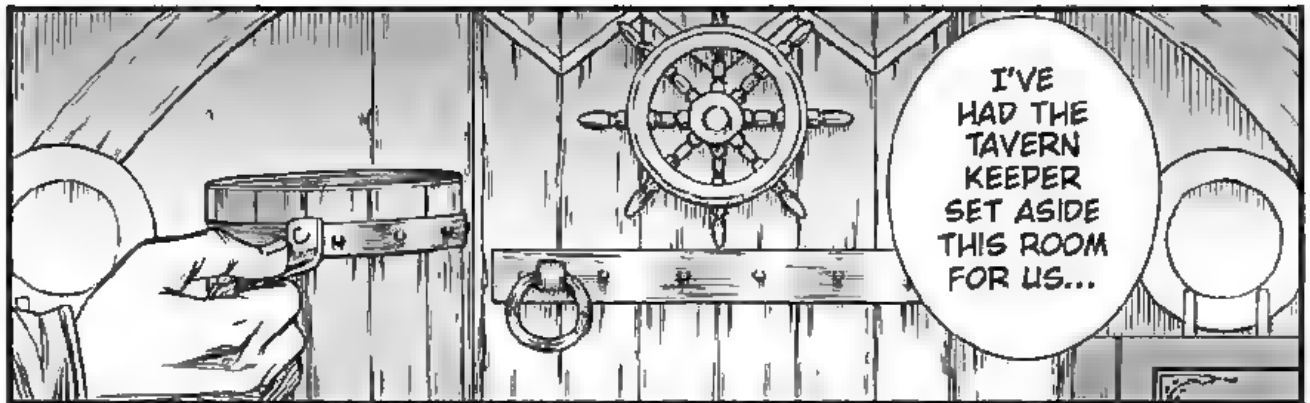


IT'LL  
BE MY  
TREAT.

I'VE A  
FAVORITE  
TAVERN.  
PERHAPS  
WE SHOULD  
GO THERE.

SPICE & WOLF







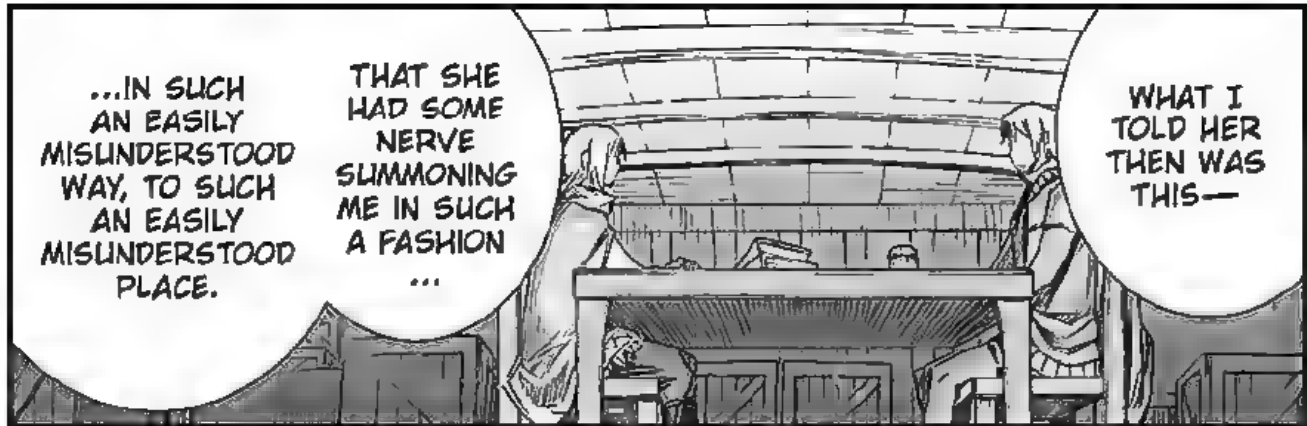






I  
LEARNED  
OF THE  
SITUATION  
IN THE  
TOWN  
FROM  
EVE.

OH  
HO!



...IN SUCH  
AN EASILY  
MISUNDERSTOOD  
WAY, TO SUCH  
AN EASILY  
MISUNDERSTOOD  
PLACE.

THAT SHE  
HAD SOME  
NERVE  
SUMMONING  
ME IN SUCH  
A FASHION  
...

WHAT I  
TOLD HER  
THEN WAS  
THIS—



BUT...SHE DID  
NOT SEE FIT  
TO TELL ME  
ABOUT THEM.

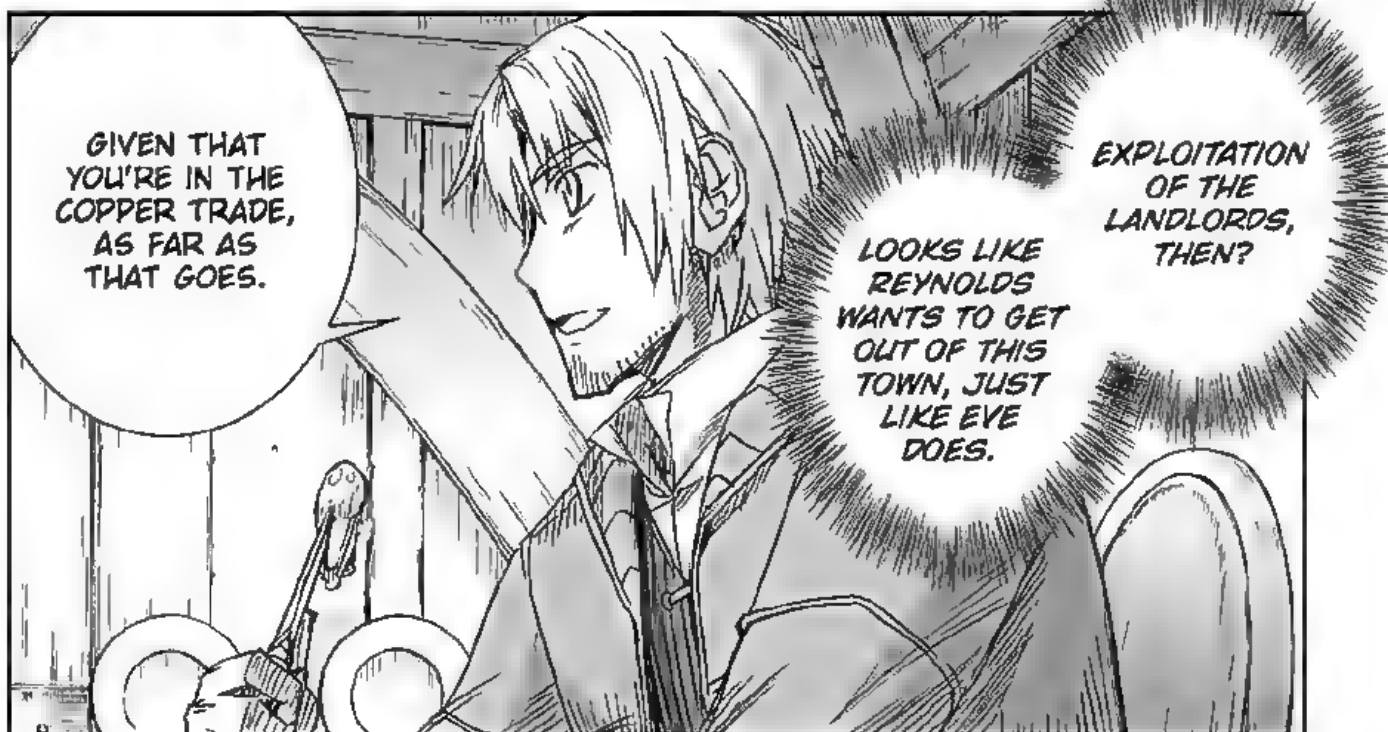


DESPITE  
THE CALM  
EXPRESSION  
ON HER FACE,  
HER MIND  
SEEMED TO BE  
SWIRLING WITH  
NOTIONS.

EVE IS IN  
A UNIQUE  
POSITION  
IN THIS  
TOWN.







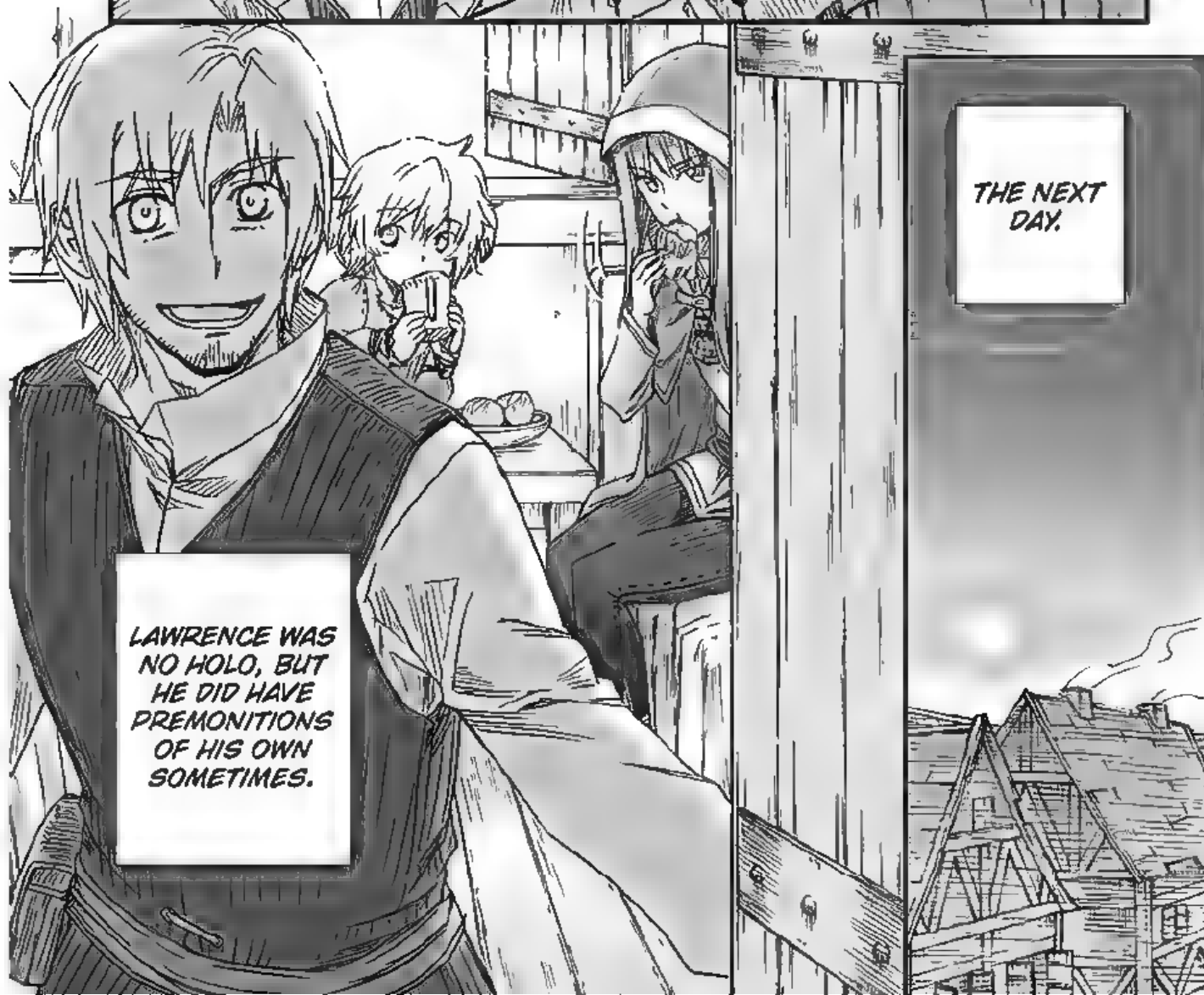




は は は  
HA HA HA!

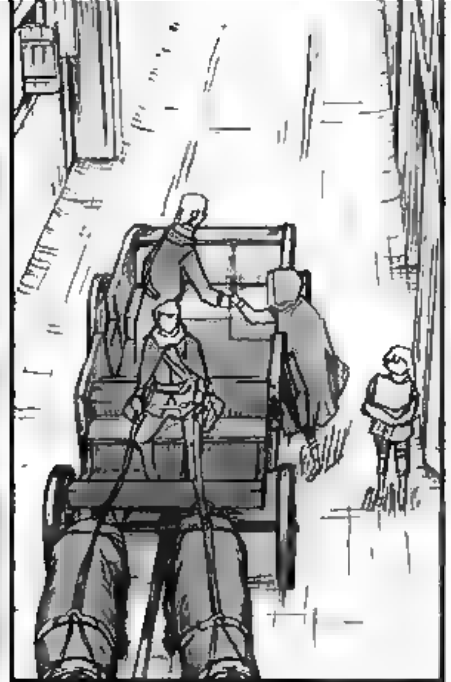
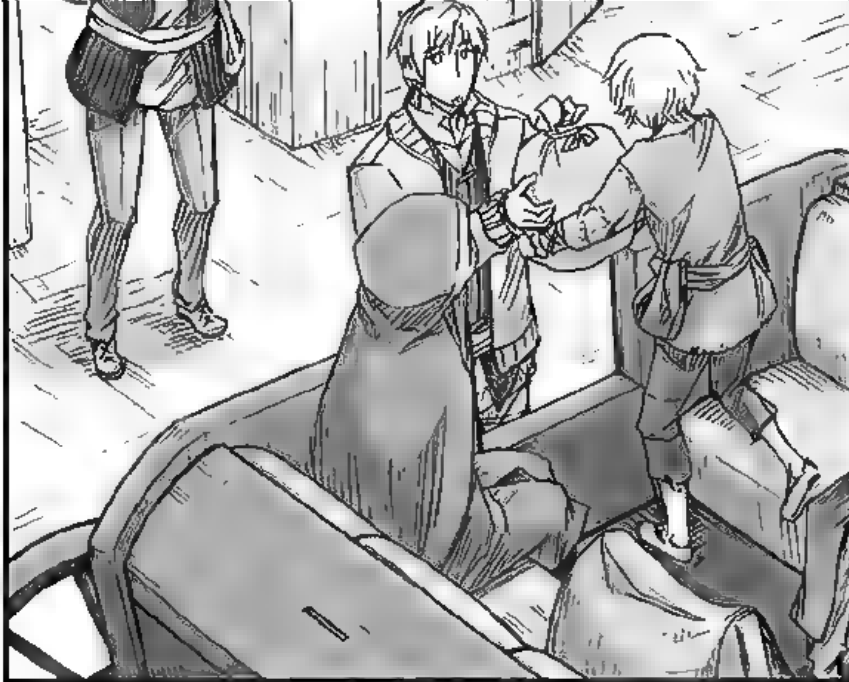
PA  
CWAFF

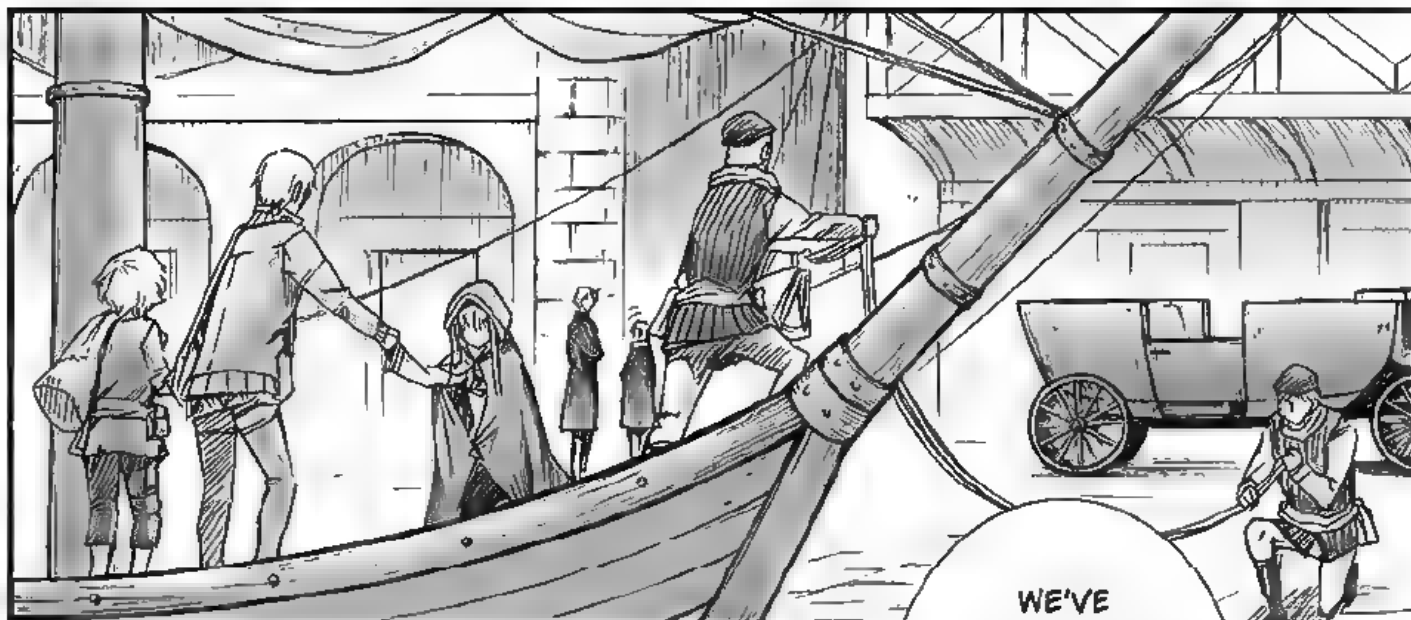
...IT  
SEEMS  
I'VE ONLY  
CAUSED A  
FUSS...



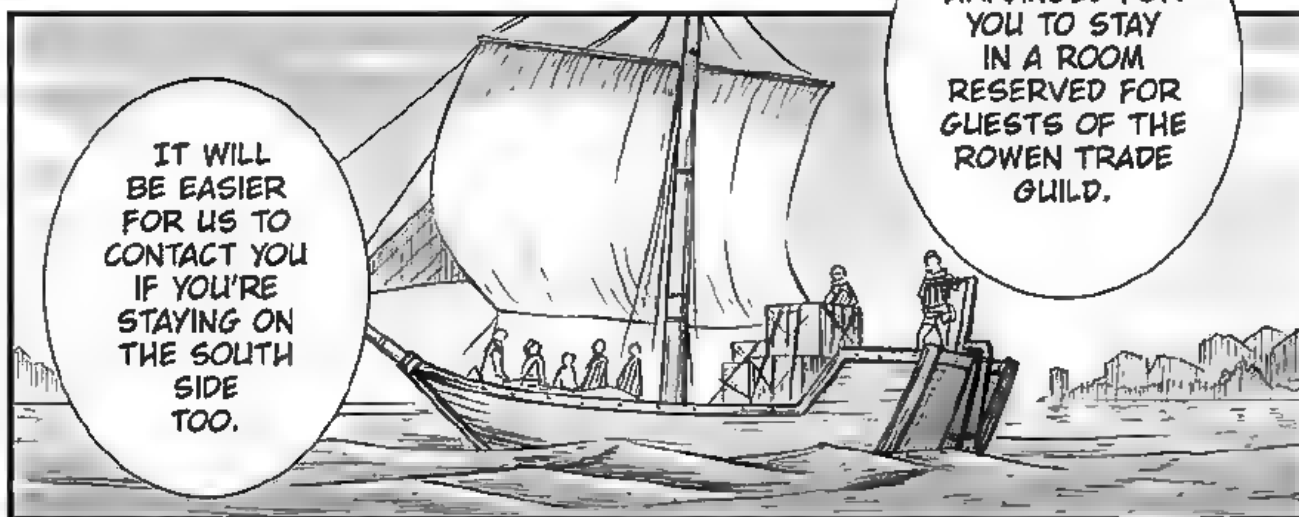




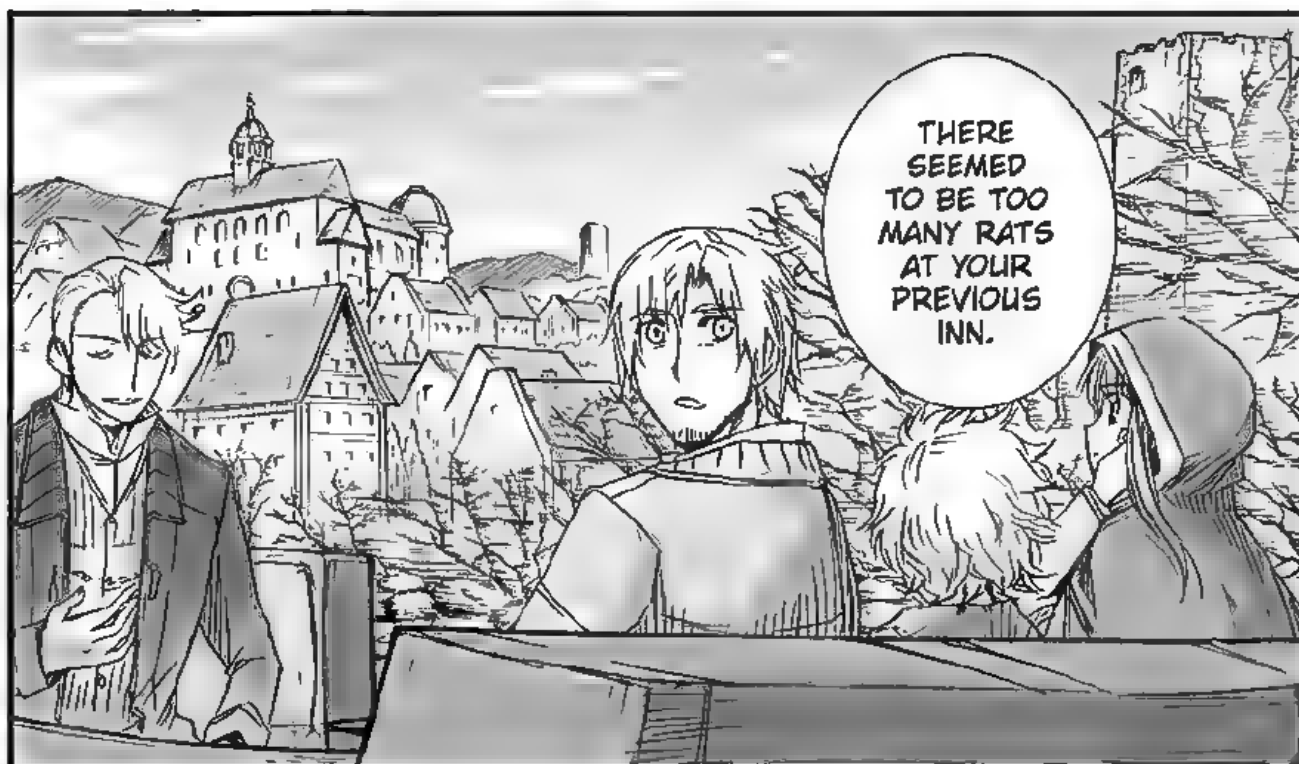




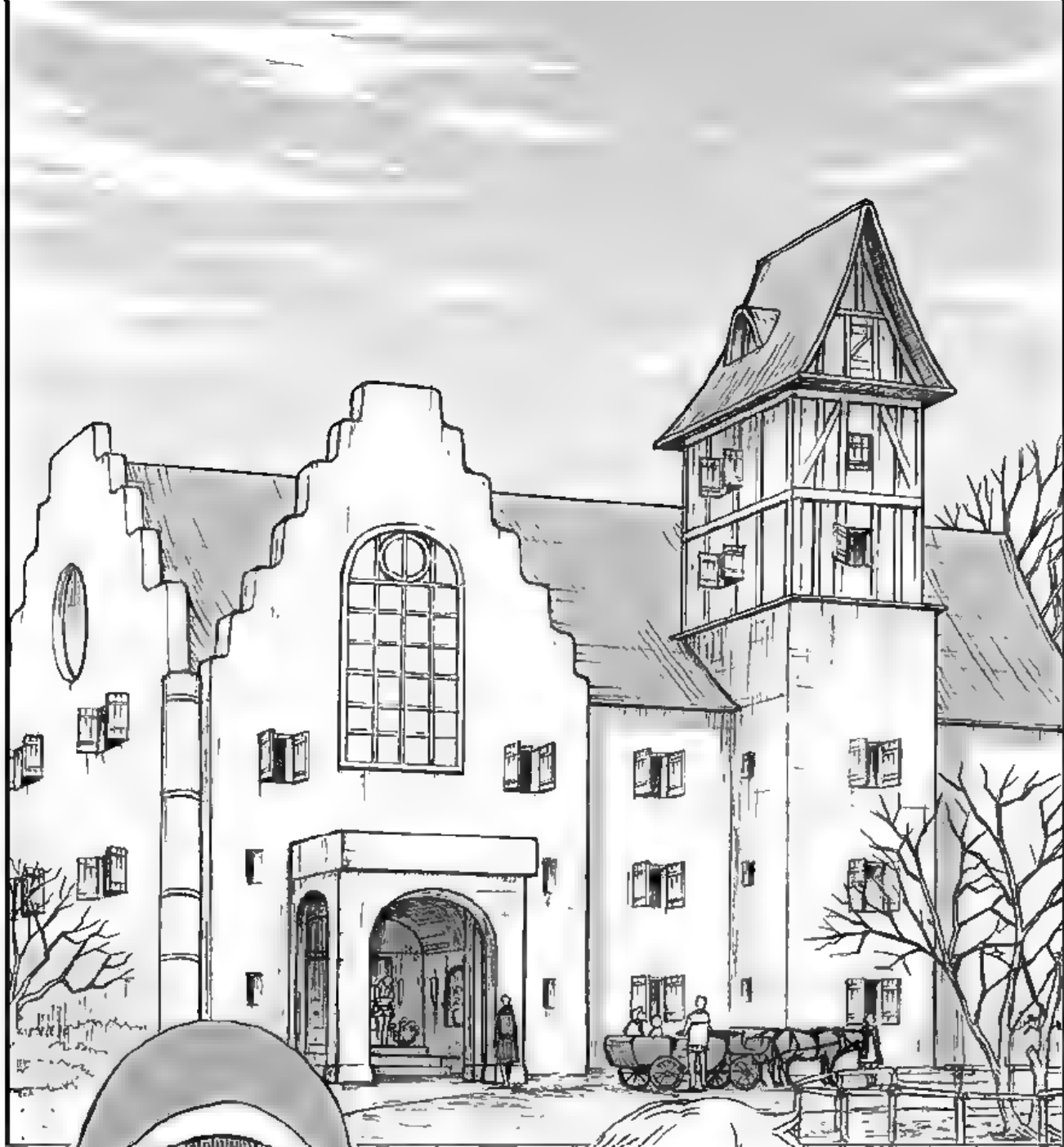
WE'VE  
ARRANGED FOR  
YOU TO STAY  
IN A ROOM  
RESERVED FOR  
GUESTS OF THE  
ROWEN TRADE  
GUILD.

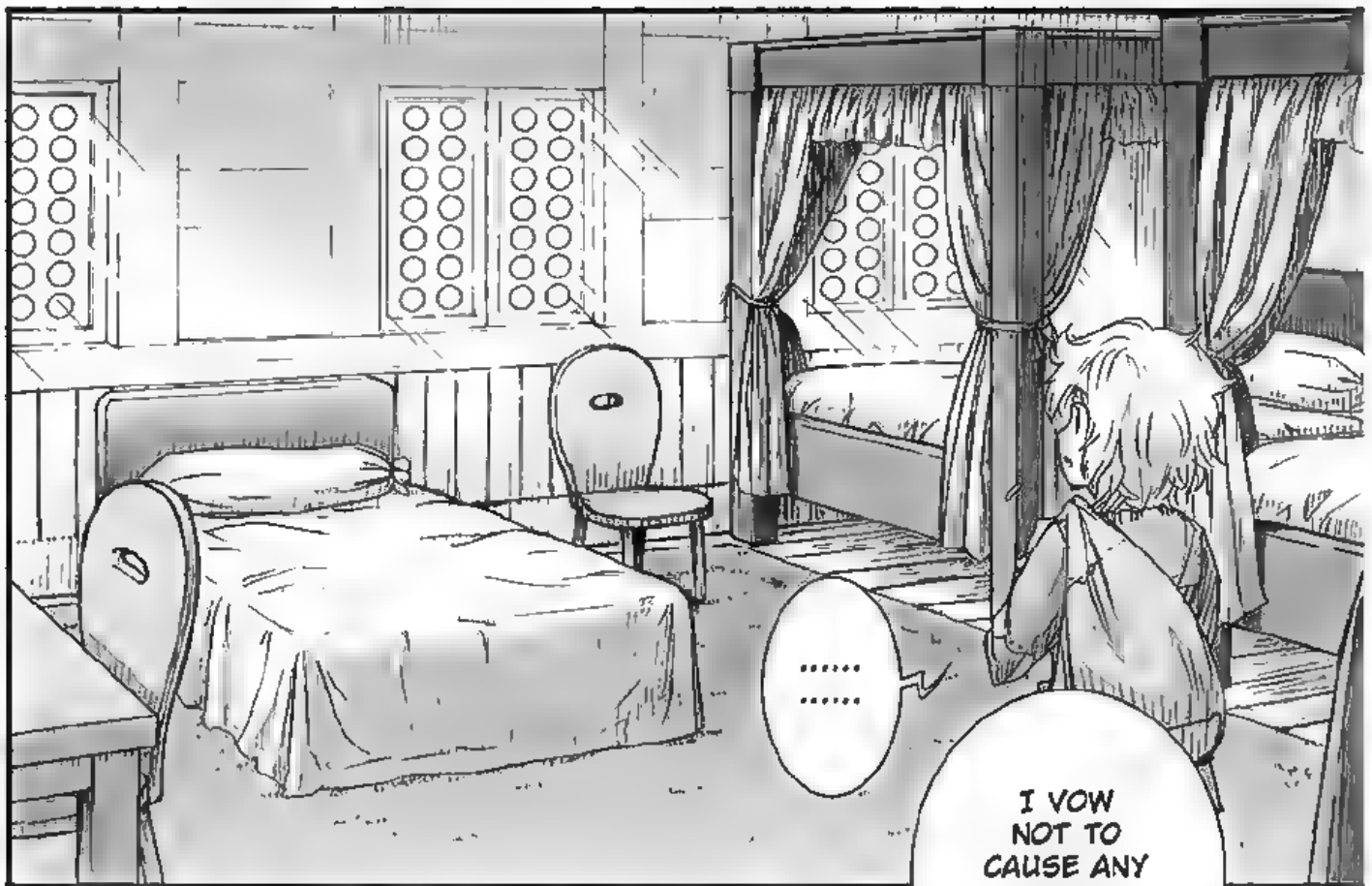


IT WILL  
BE EASIER  
FOR US TO  
CONTACT YOU  
IF YOU'RE  
STAYING ON  
THE SOUTH  
SIDE  
TOO.



THERE  
SEEMED  
TO BE TOO  
MANY RATS  
AT YOUR  
PREVIOUS  
INN.







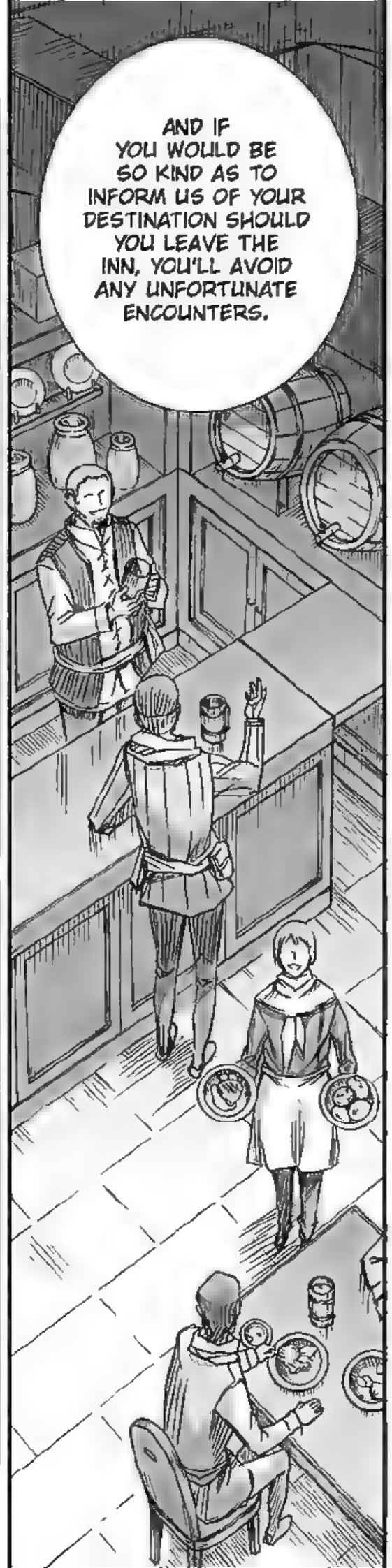


**SUR-  
PRISING...  
I HADN'T  
EXPECTED  
THEY'D LET  
US LEAVE  
AT ALL.**

**UNDER-  
STOOD.**



**ARE  
THEY SO  
CONFIDENT  
THEY CAN  
MANAGE  
ANY SITU-  
ATION?**



**AND IF  
YOU WOULD BE  
SO KIND AS TO  
INFORM US OF YOUR  
DESTINATION SHOULD  
YOU LEAVE THE  
INN, YOU'LL AVOID  
ANY UNFORTUNATE  
ENCOUNTERS.**





...THIS  
WISEWOLF  
HAS EVER  
FELT  
ANYTHING  
LIKE THIS!



COTTON!  
IT'S FILLED  
WITH  
COTTON!

BASA  
(SWISH)

BASA



.....



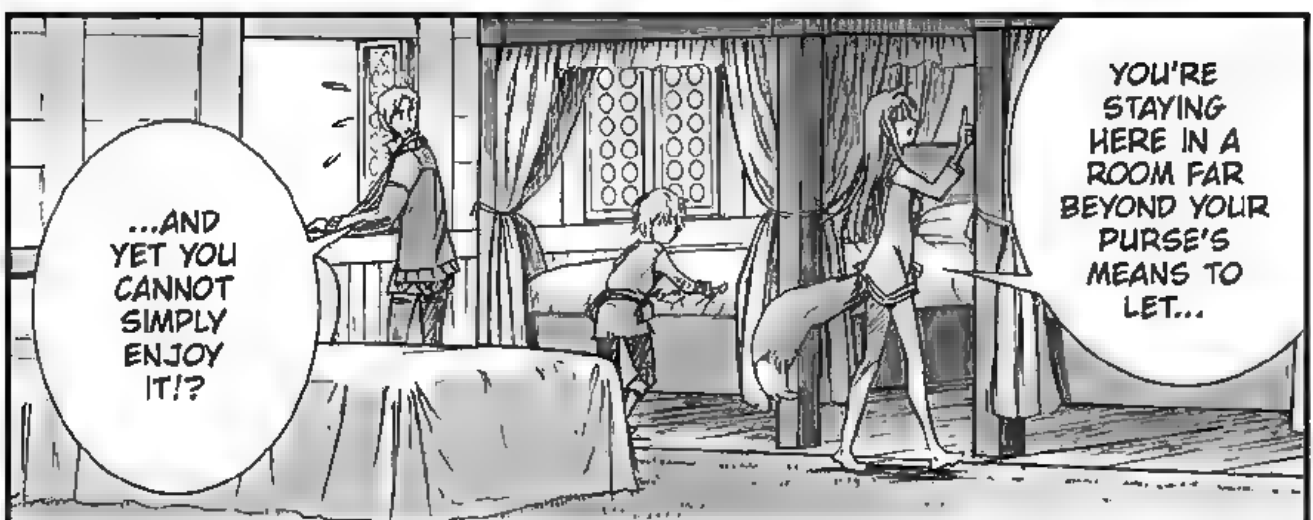
COME, LIE  
UPON IT  
YOURSELF!

HEE  
HEE!

'TIS SOFT,  
LIKE A  
CLOUD.











AYE.

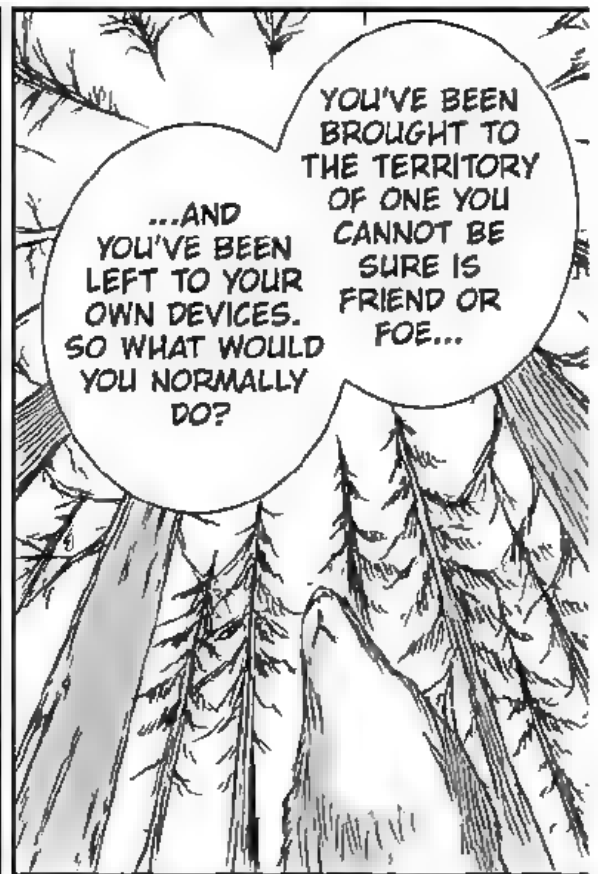
ON  
THAT COUNT,  
HUMANS  
AND WOLVES  
ARE NO  
DIFFERENT.

HE WANTS TO  
MAKE SURE  
THERE ARE  
NO STRINGS  
ATTACHED  
TO ME...IS  
THAT IT?



YOU  
SEEK THE  
COUNSEL  
OF THOSE  
YOU KNOW,  
OR THOSE  
YOU TRUST.

IN OTHER  
WORDS, YOU  
NAVIGATE  
UNFAMILIAR  
TERRITORY  
USING THE  
MAP WITHIN  
YOUR MIND.



...AND  
YOU'VE BEEN  
LEFT TO YOUR  
OWN DEVICES.  
SO WHAT WOULD  
YOU NORMALLY  
DO?

YOU'VE BEEN  
BROUGHT TO  
THE TERRITORY  
OF ONE YOU  
CANNOT BE  
SURE IS  
FRIEND OR  
FOE...

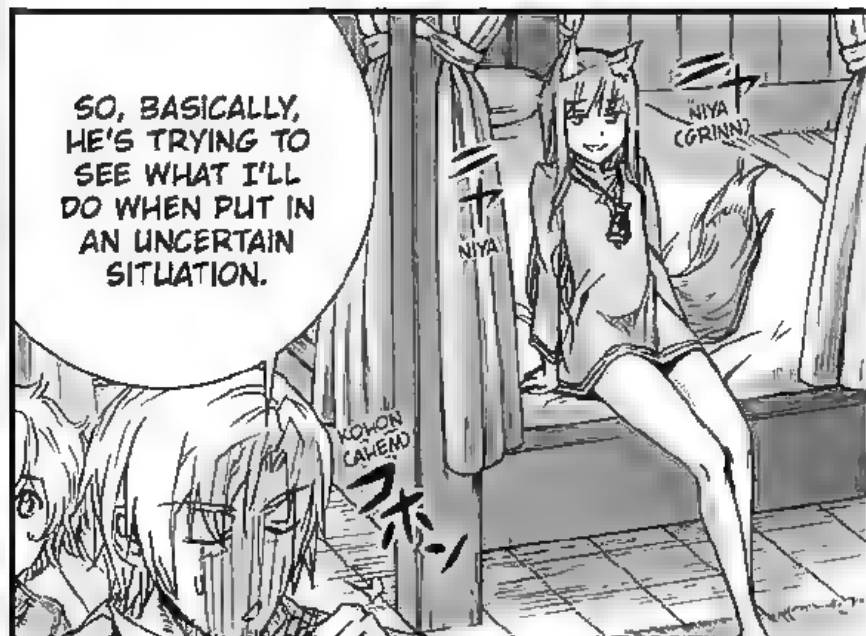


JUST LIKE  
MY EARS  
AND TAIL.  
OR YOUR  
BEARD.



THE MINDS  
OF HUMANS  
AND  
BEASTS  
CANNOT BE  
SEEN, BUT  
WHEN THEY  
MOVE...

...THOSE  
MOVEMENTS  
MAKE IT  
QUITE CLEAR  
WHAT SORT  
OF MAP THEY  
POSSESS.

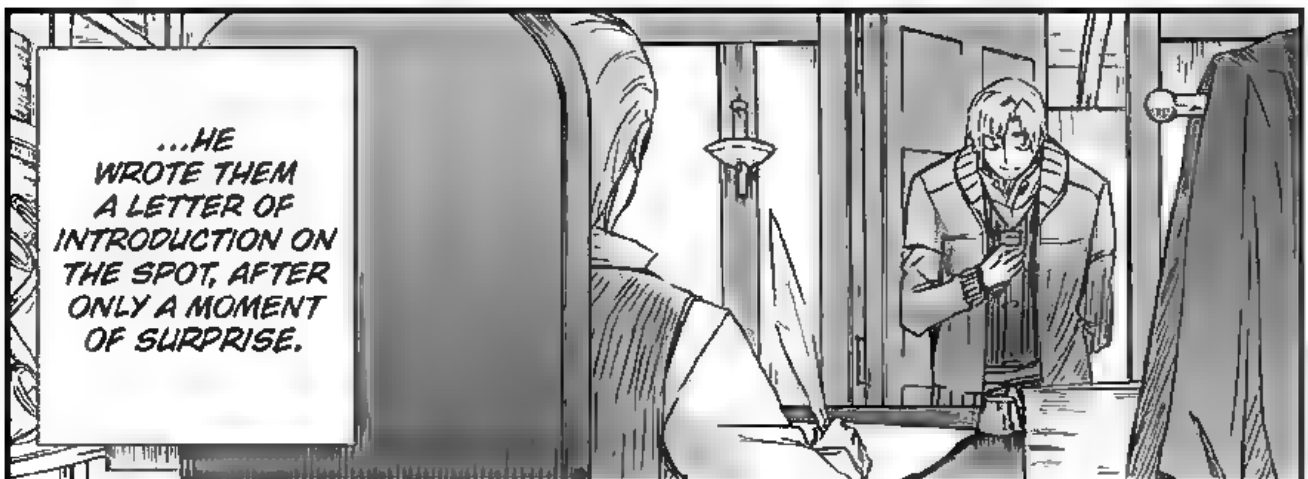
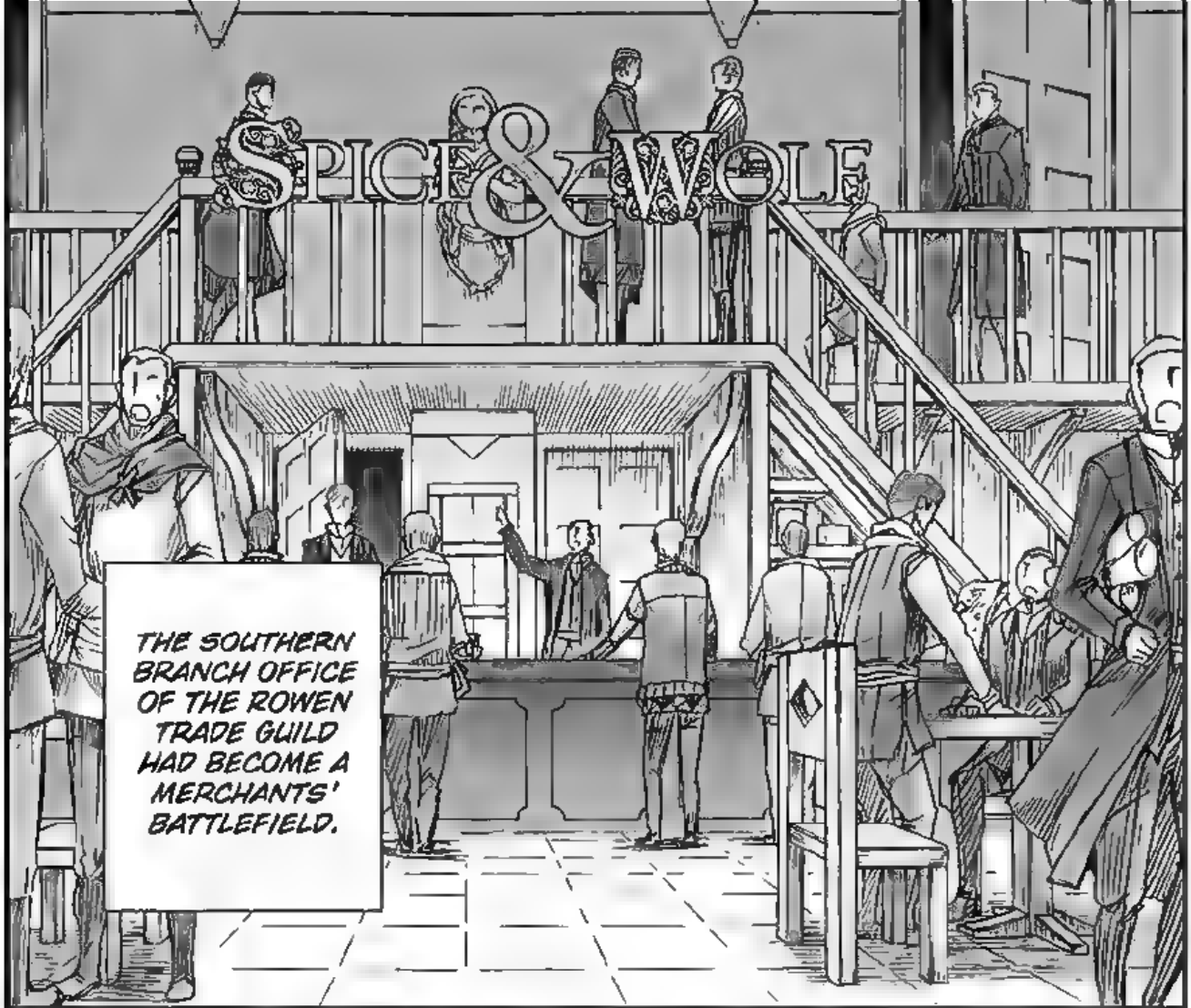


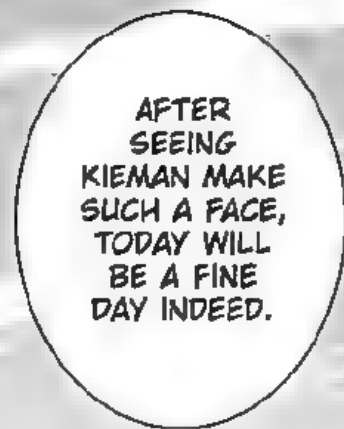




SPICE & WOLF

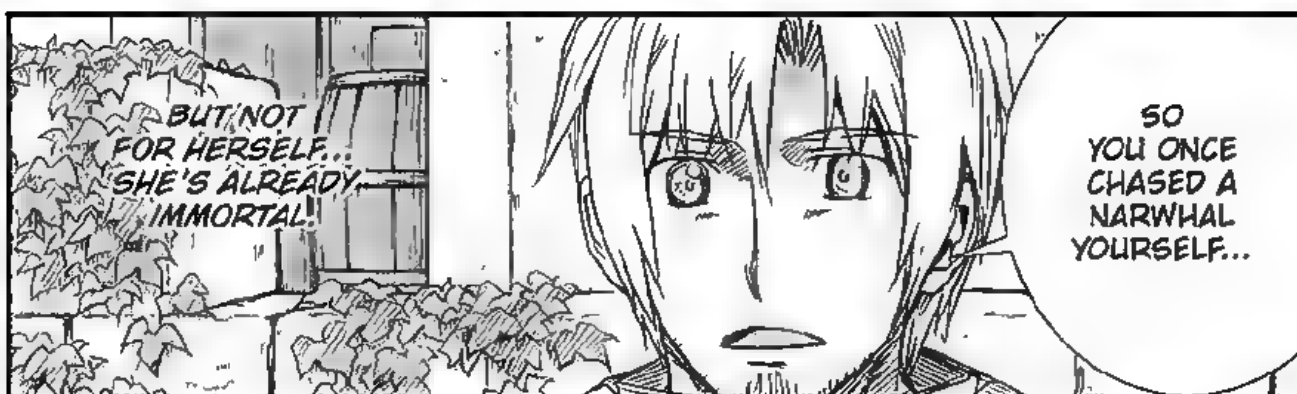
















AND  
MY HAPPY  
LITTLE LIFE  
COULD GO ON  
FOREVER.

I BELIEVED  
THAT, TRULY  
I DID.



AND IF MY  
FRIEND'S LIFE  
WAS COMING  
TO AN END, I  
COULD SIMPLY  
EXTEND IT.



I BELIEVED  
THERE WAS A  
SOLUTION FOR  
EVERYTHING I  
HATED ABOUT  
THE WORLD.

IF I  
HATED BEING  
WORSHIPPED, I  
WOULD GO ON A  
JOURNEY. IF I  
WAS LONELY, I  
HAD BUT TO  
MAKE A  
FRIEND.



AND I PAID  
THE PRICE  
FOR THAT  
BELIEF IN  
TEARS. YOU  
WOULD'VE  
LOVED TO  
HAVE SEEN  
IT.



HEH  
HEH.



HA  
HA  
HA!

I CAN'T  
ARGUE  
WITH  
THAT.



BUT  
STILL.

THERE'S  
NOTHING TO  
MAKE YOU  
SMILE LIKE  
MEMORIES  
THAT STILL  
STING.



AND  
COL  
TOO.



BUT  
NOW I  
HAVE  
YOU.



I CAN'T  
SPEAK  
LIKE THIS  
TO COL.

THE LAD'S  
A COUNTER-  
WEIGHT AGAINST  
MY BEING A  
WISEWOLF.

A COUN-  
TER-  
WEIGHT  
?



IT'S  
TERRIBLY GOOD  
FOR ME TO  
HAVE SOMEONE  
LIKE THAT  
WHEN I THINK  
OF BEING A  
WISEWOLF.

HE'S SUCH A  
FOOL THAT HE  
EVEN WANTS  
TO TOUCH  
MY TAIL.

COL  
KNOWS I'M  
A WISEWOLF  
AND ADORES  
ME FOR IT.



STILL.

I'M A GREEDY  
SORT. ALWAYS  
IN PURSUIT OF  
MY OWN GAIN.



YOU DO  
SEEM TO BE  
LOWERING  
YOUR GUARD  
AROUND  
HIM.

HEE  
HEE.

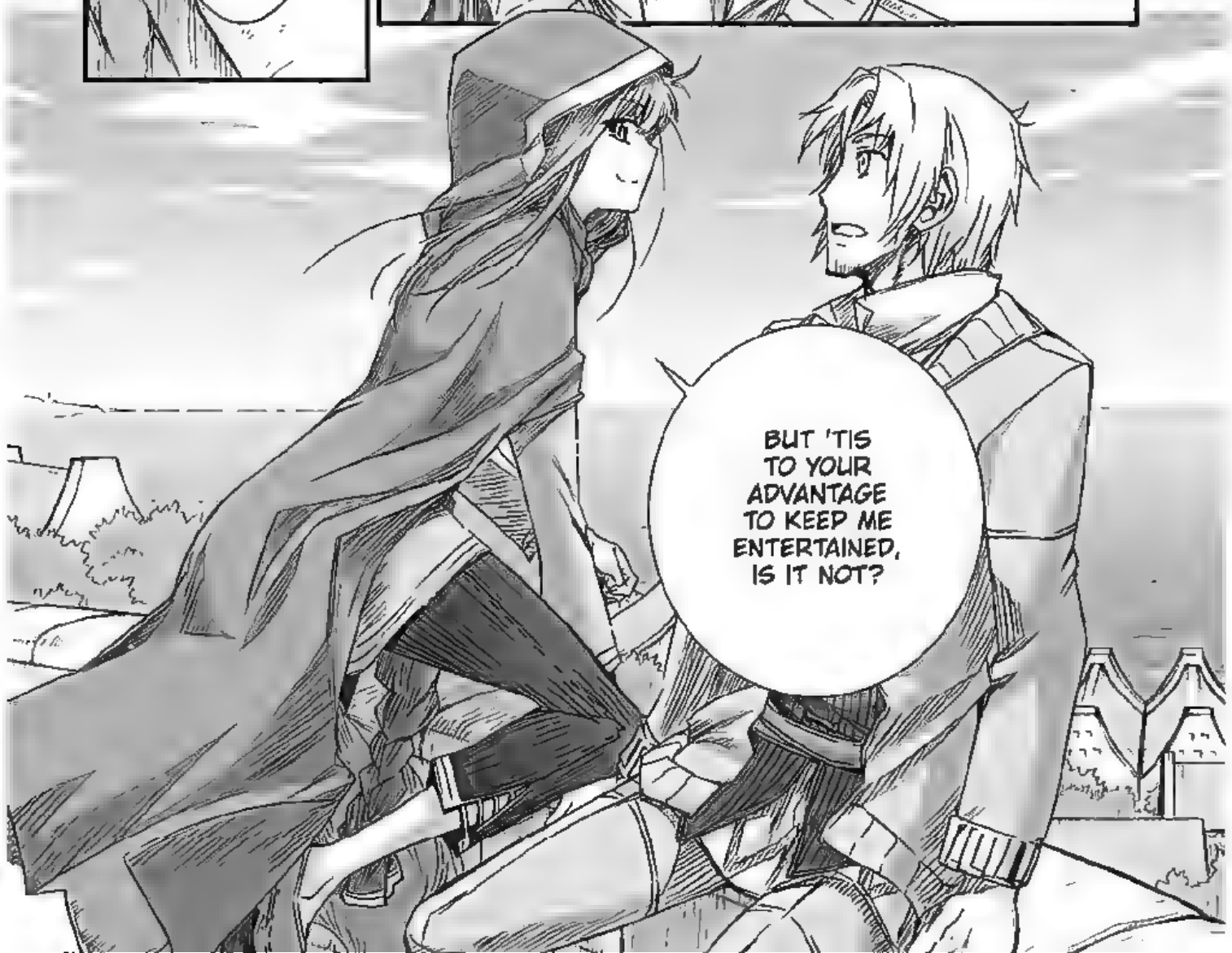
I CAN'T  
DENY IT.



AYE.

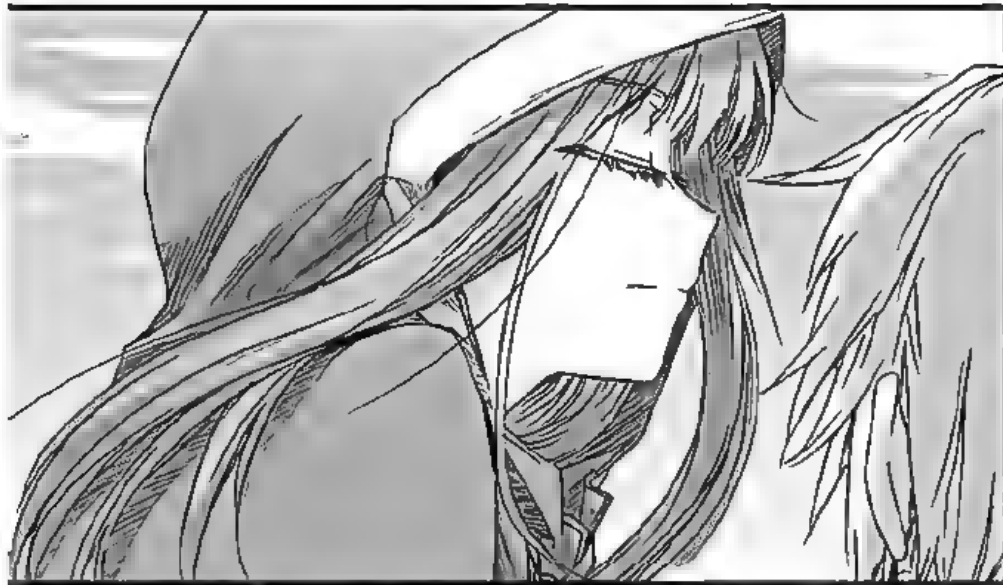


IT'S TRUE—  
IF I WERE  
LESS GREEDY  
MYSELF,  
I COULD  
BUY YOU  
ALL SORTS  
OF TASTY  
THINGS.



BUT 'TIS  
TO YOUR  
ADVANTAGE  
TO KEEP ME  
ENTERTAINED,  
IS IT NOT?





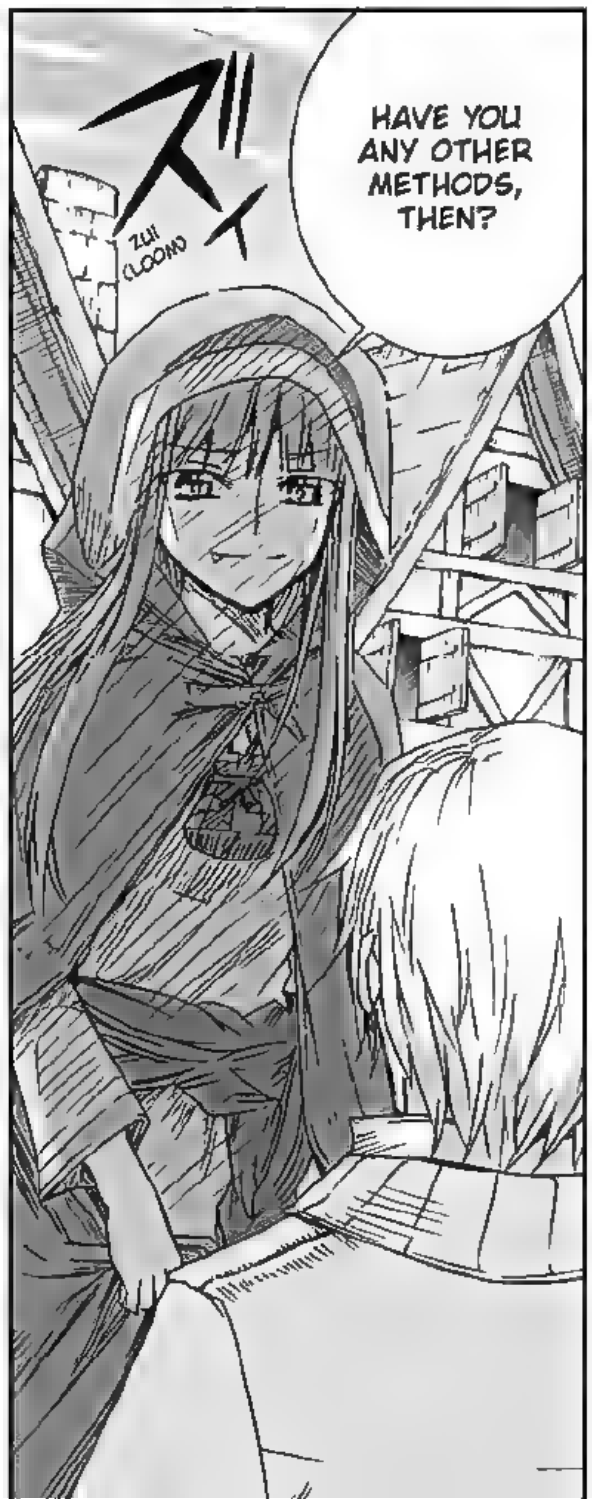
IF YOU  
WERE SO  
TEMPTED  
BY FOOD,  
I SUPPOSE  
THAT MIGHT  
BE TRUE.



I CAN'T  
RELY ON  
EITHER OF  
THOSE,  
COMING  
FROM  
YOU.



IF FOOD'S  
OUT, THEN...  
WORDS,  
PERHAPS,  
OR MANNER.



HAVE YOU  
ANY OTHER  
METHODS,  
THEN?

ZUI  
CLOOM



THAT IS  
NOT WHAT I  
AM TRYING  
TO SAY.



URK!



IF YOU THINK  
YOU'RE BEING  
DECEIVED,  
WHY NOT TRY  
TRUSTING  
ME INSTEAD?  
YOU MIGHT BE  
SURPRISED.



ANYHOW,  
THAT'S THE  
SORT OF  
FOOLISH  
THING I DID,  
LONG AGO.

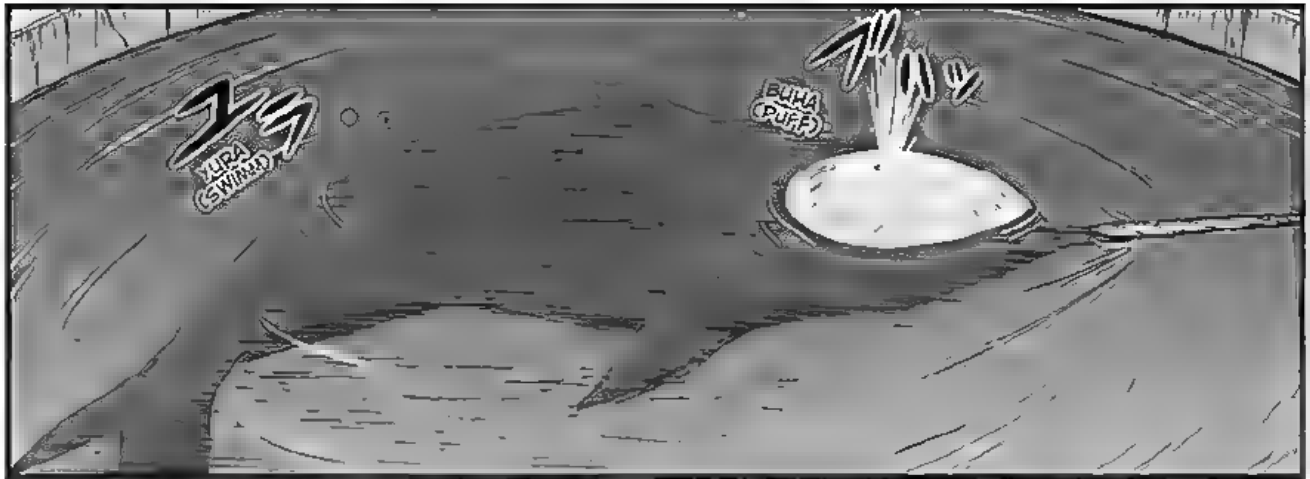


HEH  
HEH!

THAT'S  
NOT  
FAIR!











WHAT  
DO YOU  
THINK?

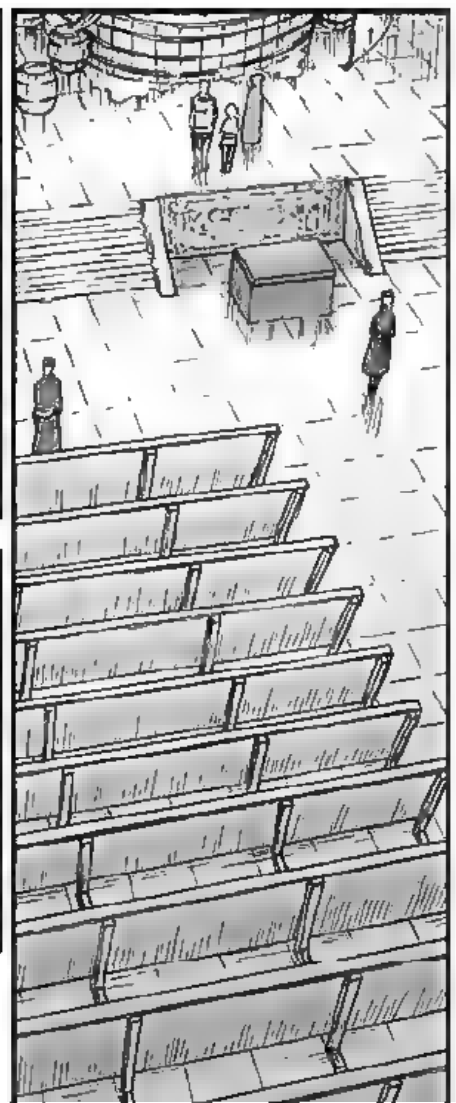
AT  
THE VERY  
LEAST, IT  
IS WITHIN  
THE REALM  
OF NORMAL  
ANIMALS.

.....



ANYTHING  
BEYOND  
THAT HAS  
A SPECIAL  
SCENT.

BUT I  
DO NOT  
SENSE  
THAT  
HERE.





**MOST  
CHURCHES  
HAD IRON-  
REINFORCED  
DOORS.**

**THEY WERE  
MEANT AS THE  
LAST REFUGE FOR  
PEOPLE TAKING  
SANCTUARY IN  
TIMES OF WAR.**



**IT'S TRUE—  
THE FRONT  
DOOR MIGHT  
GIVE EVEN  
YOU SOME  
TROUBLE.**



**THE  
PROBLEM  
IS WHERE  
TO ENTER  
FROM.**

**WELL,  
JUST  
IN  
CASE.**



**WHAT ABOUT  
THAT GREAT  
WINDOW?**

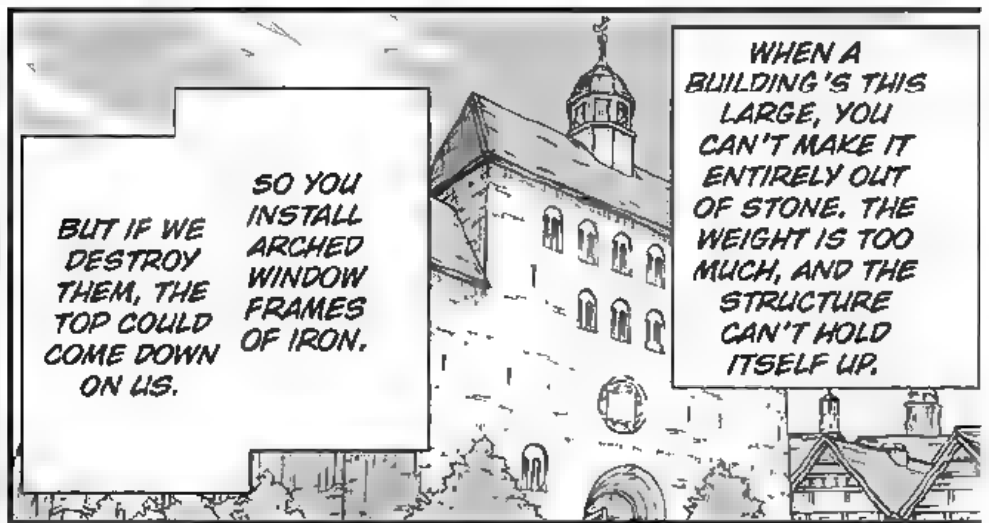




WELL, LET'S  
HURRY BACK.  
THE PRIEST  
WILL BE  
SUSPICIOUS.

AYE.

ALL  
RIGHT!



BUT IF WE  
DESTROY  
THEM, THE  
TOP COULD  
COME DOWN  
ON US.

SO YOU  
INSTALL  
ARCHED  
WINDOW  
FRAMES  
OF IRON.

WHEN A  
BUILDING'S THIS  
LARGE, YOU  
CAN'T MAKE IT  
ENTIRELY OUT  
OF STONE. THE  
WEIGHT IS TOO  
MUCH, AND THE  
STRUCTURE  
CAN'T HOLD  
ITSELF UP.



ANYWAY...

WE'LL  
WORRY  
ABOUT  
THAT WHEN  
THE TIME  
COMES.

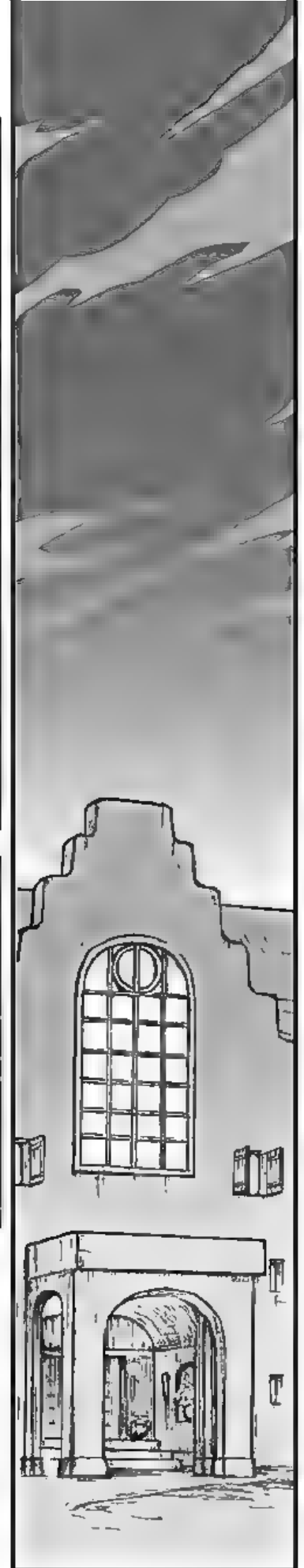
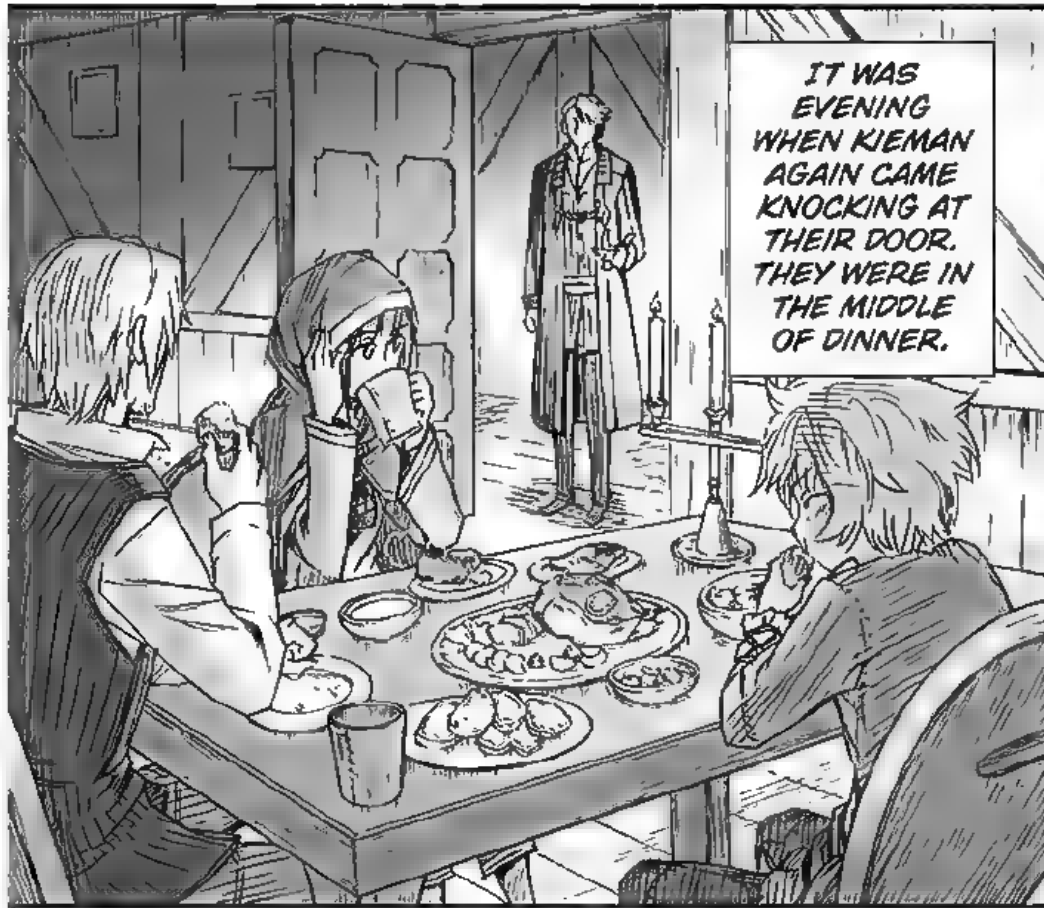


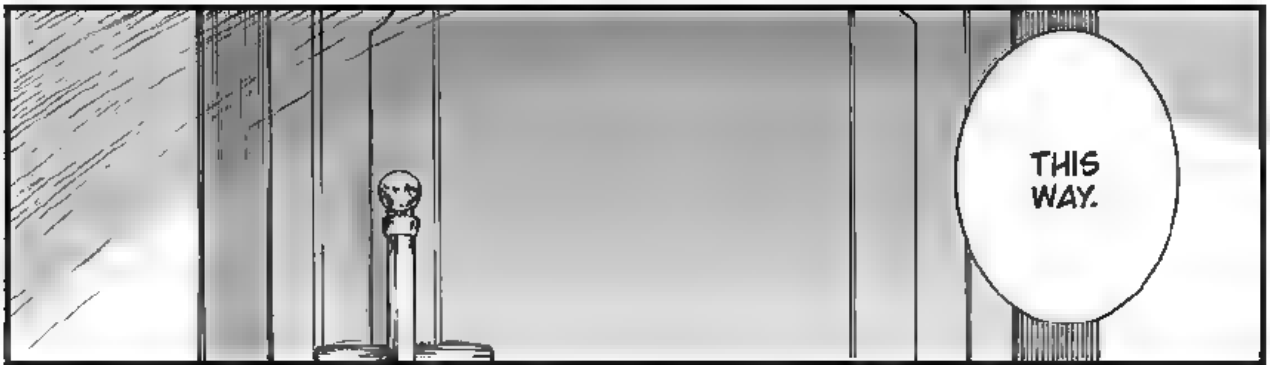
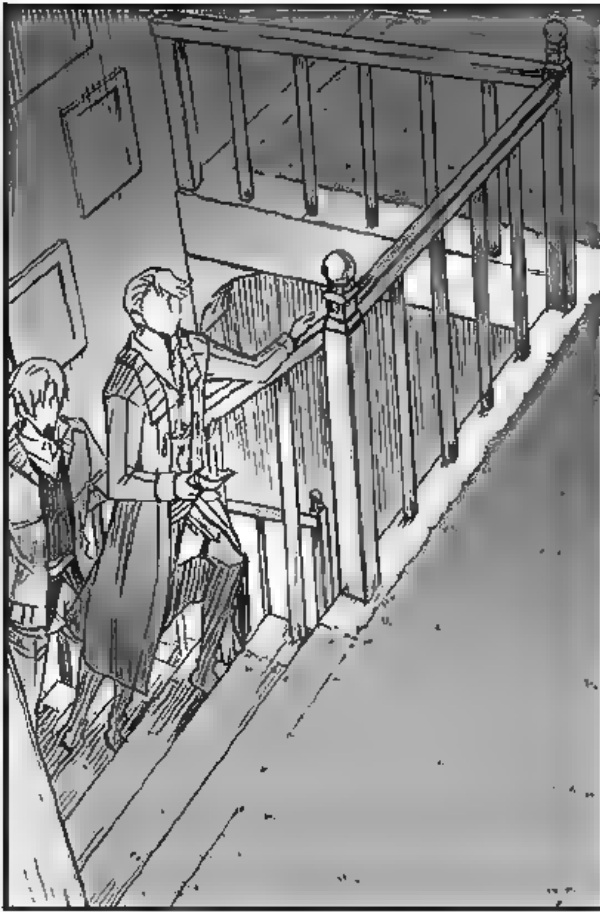
SHE'S  
RIGHT.

I KNOW  
YOU CAN  
DO IT, MR.  
LAWRENCE!

...IF YOU  
WOULD WORK  
A BIT HARDER  
AT YOUR TRADE,  
I'D NOT HAVE  
TO BEAR SO  
MUCH OF THE  
DANGER.





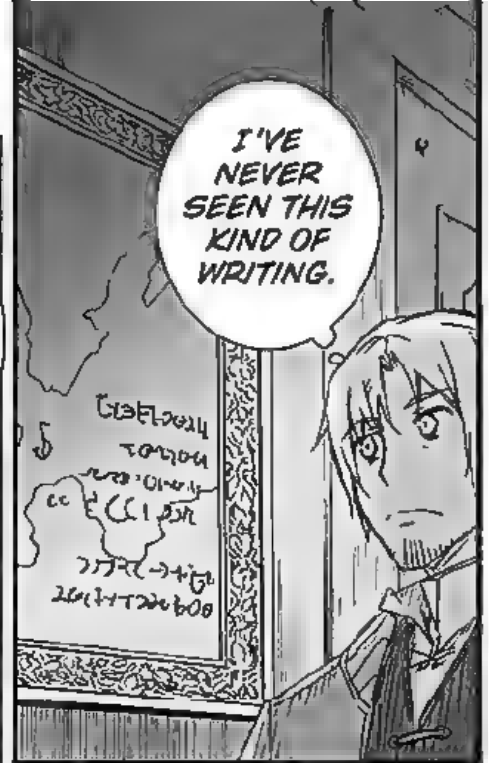




IN MY  
ENTIRE LIFE,  
I'VE NEVER  
LEFT KERUBE  
ONCE...

...I PRIDE  
MYSELF  
ON HAVING  
BEEN  
ABLE TO  
SEE THE  
WORLD  
NONETHE-  
LESS.

...BUT  
HAVING  
BEEN  
RAISED ON  
MAPS AND  
HISTORY  
BOOKS  
AND  
COMMERCE  
LEDGERS...



I'VE  
NEVER  
SEEN THIS  
KIND OF  
WRITING.



I'LL HEAR  
YOU OUT AS  
A MERCHANT  
WHO'S SEEN  
THE WORLD  
WITH HIS OWN  
EYES, ON HIS  
OWN FEET.



PLEASE,  
SIT.



WELL,  
THEN, TO  
THE TOPIC  
AT HAND.





WE WISH TO  
ASK YOU, MR.  
LAWRENCE, TO  
ACT AS OUR  
MESSENGER TO  
EVE BOLAN.



MIGHT I  
ASK THE  
REASON  
FOR THAT?



I SUPPOSE  
THAT WAS TED  
REYNOLDS  
OF THE JEAN  
COMPANY?

AH.

I  
SEE YOU  
UNDER-  
STAND.



OF  
COURSE.



NATURALLY.

TO BE  
BLUNT,  
ORIGINALLY  
THIS DUTY  
WAS NOT  
YOURS.



SO THAT'S  
IT...



REYNOLDS WAS  
TRYING TO USE  
THE CONFLICT  
BETWEEN THE  
NORTH AND  
SOUTH TO  
LINE HIS OWN  
POCKETS.

THAT PATHETIC  
VISIT OF  
REYNOLDS'S  
MIGHT HAVE  
JUST BEEN  
ANOTHER PART  
OF HIS PLAN.



HE CONTACTED US,  
AND USING HIM  
WOULD ALLOW US  
TO PROFIT IN THE  
COPPER TRADE.

BUT  
COMPARED  
WITH YOU, MR.  
LAWRENCE,  
HE IS LESS  
TRUST-  
WORTHY.

SO HE WAS OUR  
FIRST CHOICE.  
MOREOVER, HIS  
CONNECTIONS  
TO THE BOLAN  
FAMILY ARE  
QUITE GOOD.



BY USING  
THE NARWHAL,  
WE WISH TO GAIN  
FULL OWNERSHIP  
OF THE NORTHERN  
DISTRICT.

OUR GOAL  
IS THIS—





BUT  
WITHOUT  
ALLOWING  
THEM TO USE  
THE RESULTING  
PROFIT TO  
THEN CONTROL  
THE ENTIRE  
TOWN.



...AND BRING  
HER REPLIES  
BACK TO US.

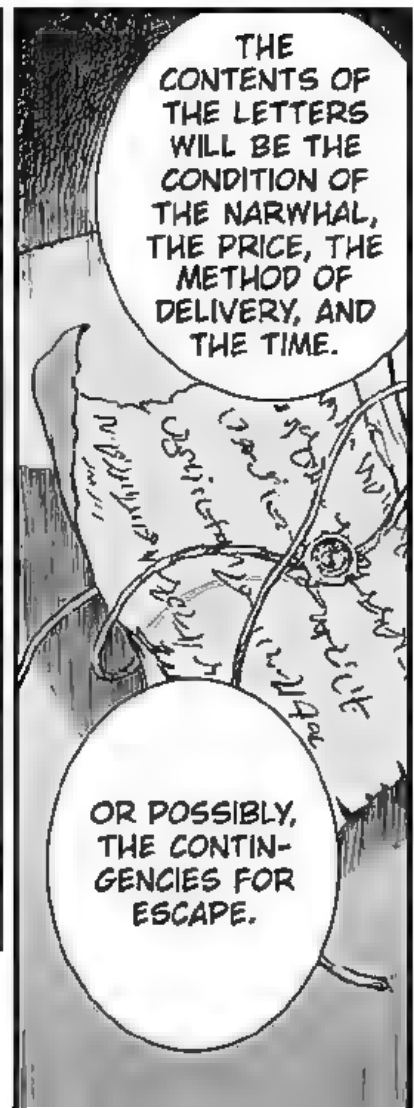
WE  
WISH YOU TO  
CARRY LETTERS  
BETWEEN  
US AND EVE,  
THE WOLF...

WHAT  
EXACTLY  
DO YOU  
WANT ME  
TO DO?



BUT WE  
TRUST YOU,  
AND SHE  
DOES AS  
WELL.

WE DO NOT  
TRUST HER,  
NOR DOES  
THE WOLF  
TRUST US.



THE  
CONTENTS OF  
THE LETTERS  
WILL BE THE  
CONDITION OF  
THE NARWHAL,  
THE PRICE, THE  
METHOD OF  
DELIVERY, AND  
THE TIME.

OR POSSIBLY,  
THE CONTINGENCIES FOR  
ESCAPE.



I'D LIKE THIS  
TO RESULT IN THE  
ROWEN TRADE  
GUILD BECOMING  
THE PREEMINENT  
GUILD ON THE  
SOUTH SIDE.



AND MY  
COMPEN-  
SATION?



THE CURRENT  
GUILD HOUSE  
CHIEF, JEEDA,  
HAS BECOME  
COMPLACENT—  
I'LL REPLACE  
HIM.

AS  
FOR THE  
COMPEN-  
SATION...



WHICH  
MEANS THE  
WOLF HAS A  
CHANCE TO  
SWAY YOU TO  
HER SIDE.

OF  
COURSE,  
THIS IS  
A MERE  
VERBAL  
PROMISE.



BUT  
WITHOUT  
DOING SO,  
THERE'S NO  
CHANCE FOR  
SUCCESS AT  
ALL. MORE'S  
THE PITY.

I'D  
PREFER  
NOT TO  
HAVE TO  
DEAL WITH  
THE WOLF.



INDEED. AND  
SHE COULD  
OFFER ME  
CONCRETE  
PROFIT, NO  
DOUBT.

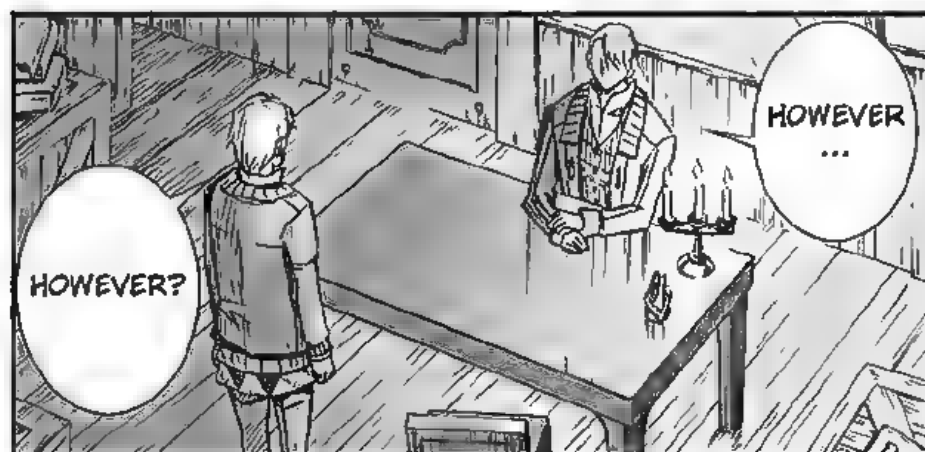


...I'LL LEAVE  
THAT TO YOUR  
IMAGINATION.



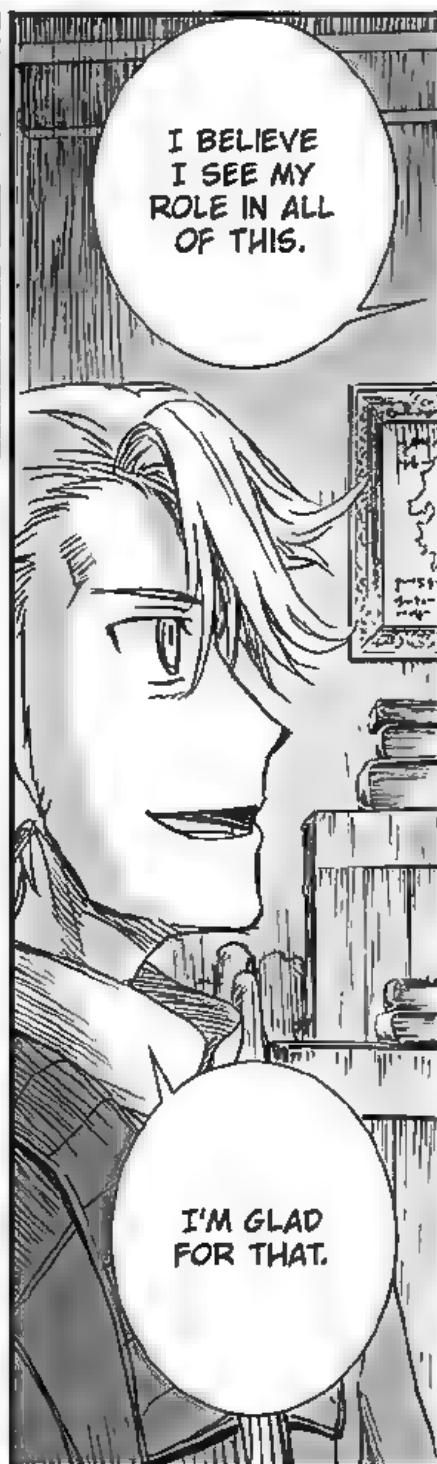
I SEE.  
UNDERSTOOD.

THERE'S NO  
MISTAKING IT.  
KIEMAN'S FIGURED  
OUT THAT THE  
LANDLORD'S SON  
IS INFATUATED  
WITH EVE... JUST  
AS EVE DEDUCED.



HOWEVER?

HOWEVER  
...

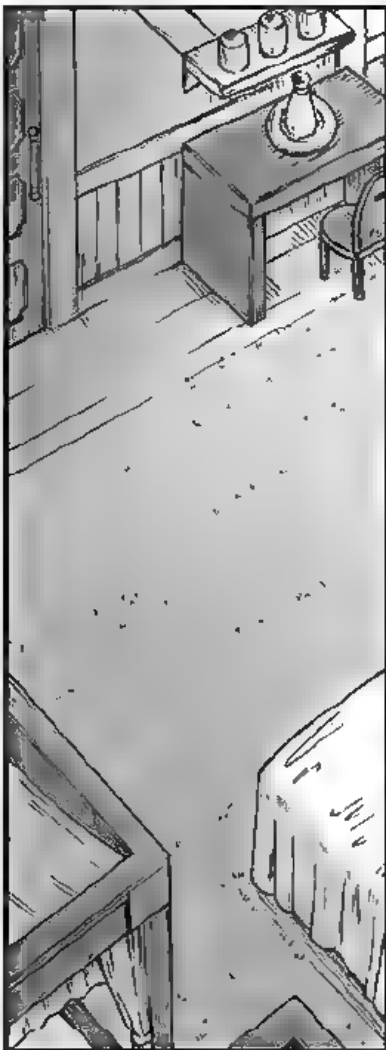


I BELIEVE  
I SEE MY  
ROLE IN ALL  
OF THIS.

I'M GLAD  
FOR THAT.



I TRULY  
THOUGHT  
I'D HAD YOU  
COMPLETELY  
UNDER MY  
CONTROL.







AYE.

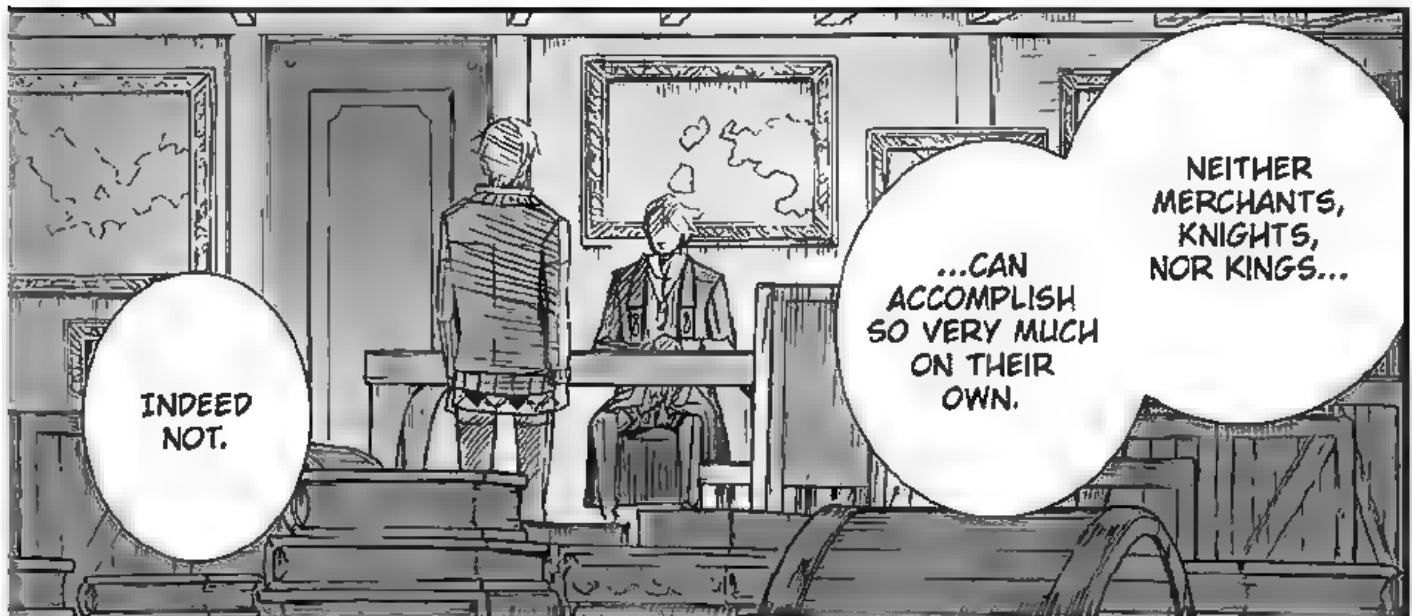


MR.  
LAWRENCE  
WILL BE  
ALL RIGHT,  
WON'T HE?



I'M SORRY.  
IT WAS A  
FOOLISH  
QUESTION.

.....



INDEED  
NOT.

...CAN  
ACCOMPLISH  
SO VERY MUCH  
ON THEIR  
OWN.

NEITHER  
MERCHANTS,  
KNIGHTS,  
NOR KINGS...



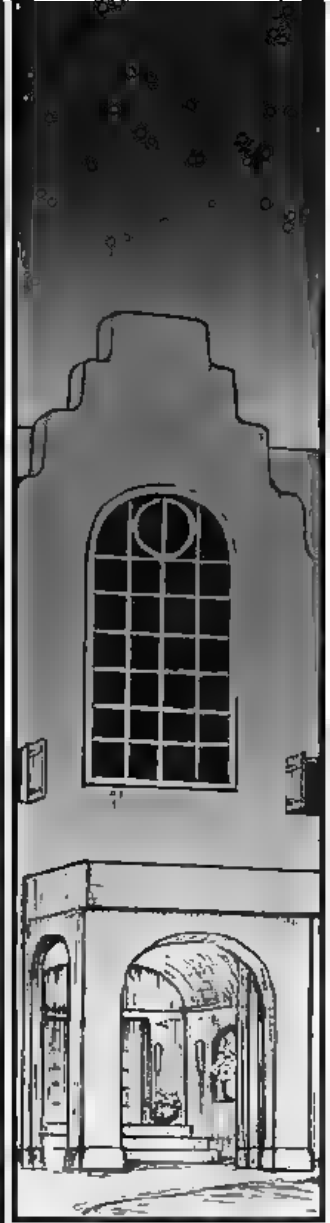
SO LET  
US EACH DO  
OUR BEST,  
SHALL  
WE?



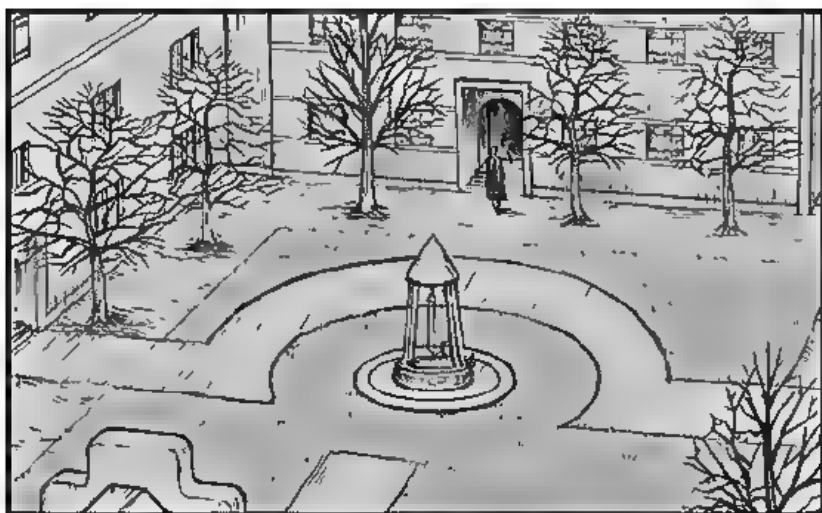
WELL, WE'RE  
BOTH WALKING  
ON THIN ICE,  
MADE SOLID  
ONLY WITH  
LIES.

SPICE & WOLF







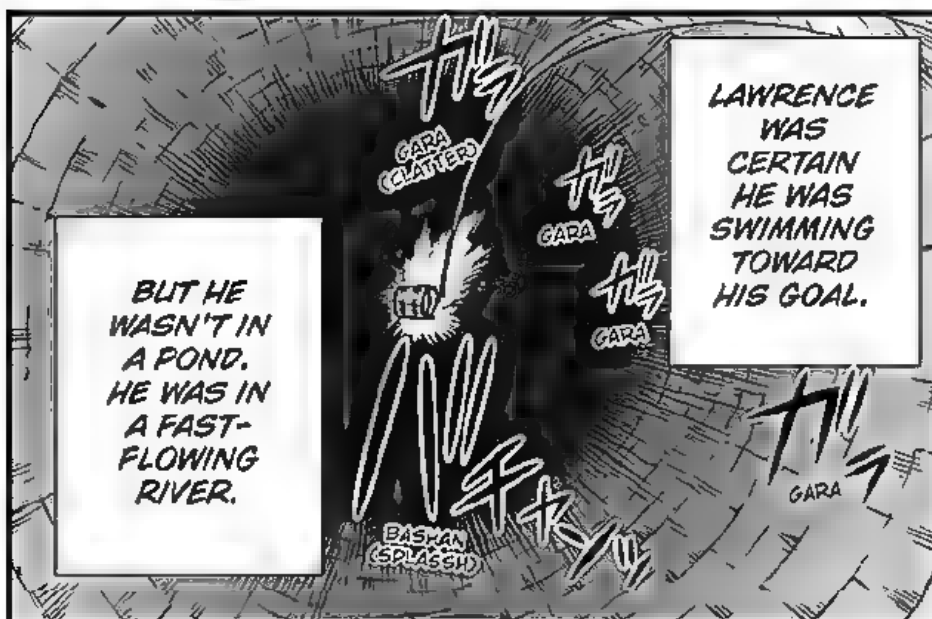




BUT MAYBE  
THERE'S NO  
ROOM FOR  
SUCH FEELINGS  
WHEN YOU'RE  
A MERCHANT  
AT KIEMAN'S  
LEVEL.

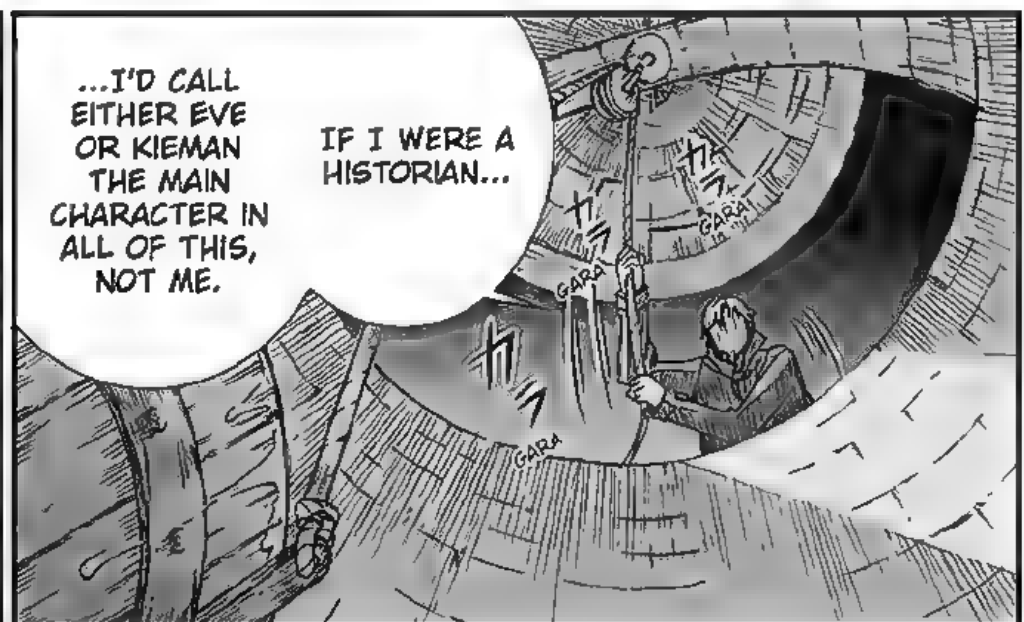
...I FELT  
PROPERLY  
GUILTY  
ABOUT  
THAT.

BACK WHEN  
I CONVINCED  
NORAH TO HELP  
ME SMUGGLE  
GOLD INTO  
RUVINHEI-  
GEN...



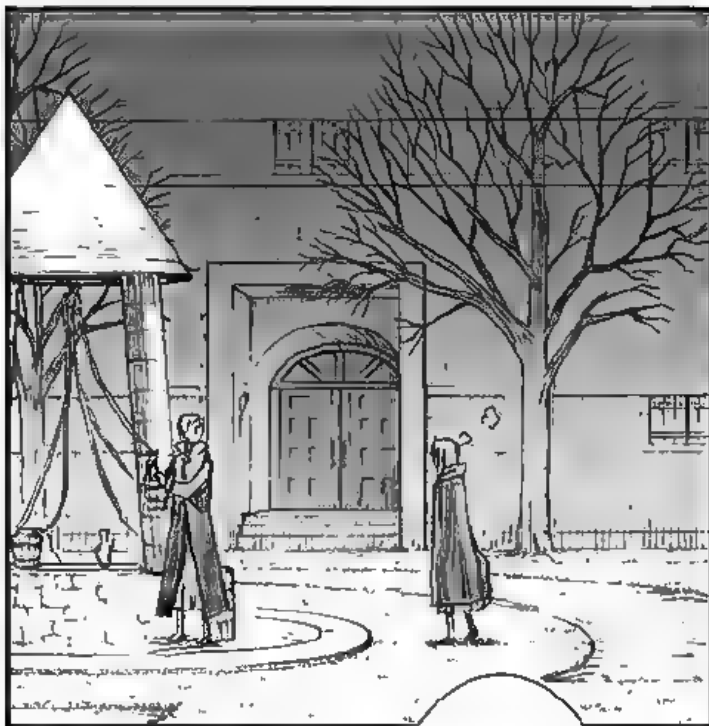
BUT HE  
WASN'T IN  
A POND.  
HE WAS IN  
A FAST-  
FLOWING  
RIVER.

LAWRENCE  
WAS  
CERTAIN  
HE WAS  
SWIMMING  
TOWARD  
HIS GOAL.



...I'D CALL  
EITHER EVE  
OR KIEMAN  
THE MAIN  
CHARACTER IN  
ALL OF THIS,  
NOT ME.

IF I WERE A  
HISTORIAN...



IT IS.



'TIS A  
LOVELY  
NIGHT, IS  
IT NOT?





...  
SO TOO  
DO MY  
SPIRITS.



AS  
THE MOON  
WAXES AND  
WANES...



...I  
COULDN'T  
HELP BUT  
FOLLOW.

和  
POFU  
(PUFF)

YOU  
LEFT THE  
ROOM SO  
SUGGES-  
TIVELY...



DID I  
LOOK SO  
DESPERATE  
TO BE  
SPOKEN  
TO?



...I  
SUPPOSE  
I DID.



NIMA  
GROUND  
MAY



...I DID  
WANT TO  
SPEAK  
WITH YOU  
A BIT.

STILL...



PU  
(PFFT)



ARE  
YOU GOING  
TO TEACH ME  
SOME SECRET  
TECHNIQUE FOR  
CONTROLLING  
HUMAN  
NATURE?







I...I AM  
REGRETTING...



WELL,  
I'M GRATEFUL.  
IT'S THANKS  
TO YOU THAT  
I CAN STAND  
UP TO  
KIEMAN.

...HAVING  
PUSHED  
YOU INTO  
THIS.



I...

HM?



THAT IS  
WHAT I  
REGRET.



I URGED  
YOU ON, DESPITE  
KNOWING THAT  
WHAT LAY  
AHEAD WAS  
NOT SOMETHING  
FOR WHICH YOU  
WERE SUITED.

BUT  
EVERYONE  
HAS THEIR  
STRENGTHS  
AND WEAK-  
NESSES.

ONE AS  
CLEVER AS YOU  
CAN ACCOMPLISH  
NEARLY ANYTHING,  
SO LONG AS  
HE HAS CLEAR  
KNOWLEDGE OF HIS  
SURROUNDINGS.



IN ANY  
CASE, IF YOU'D  
REALLY WANTED TO  
CROSS SWORDS  
WITH THEM, YOU  
WOULD'VE ALREADY  
BEEN USING  
MY ABILITIES,  
WOULD YOU  
NOT?



THAT'S—




I KNEW  
IT WASN'T  
SOMETHING  
YOU WISHED  
FOR.



...A  
STEADY,  
RELIABLE  
COURSE OF  
EVENTS.


YOU SEEM  
TO WISH  
FOR...

AND I  
CAN SEE  
THAT WOULD  
SUIT YOU.



SURELY EVE  
OR KIEMAN  
WOULD HAVE  
DONE SO.

THEY WOULD  
HAVE USED  
HOLO RIGHT  
FROM THE  
START.



FROM  
A LOGICAL  
PERSPECTIVE,  
SHE WAS THE  
STRONGEST  
WEAPON.







I'M NOT  
GOING TO  
DROP OUT  
OF THIS  
STORY.



RRGH...

ESPECIALLY  
WHEN YOU  
MAKE FACES  
LIKE THAT.



IF  
YOU'RE THIS  
REGRETFUL,  
IT MUST  
MEAN YOU'RE  
EXPECTING  
SOMETHING  
EXTRAORDINARY  
OF ME.



I WANTED  
FOR YOU...  
TO ACT THE  
PROTAGONIST.



I'M MERELY  
A SMALL  
CHARACTER IN  
THE LEGEND OF  
THE MOON-  
HUNTING  
BEAR.



I...

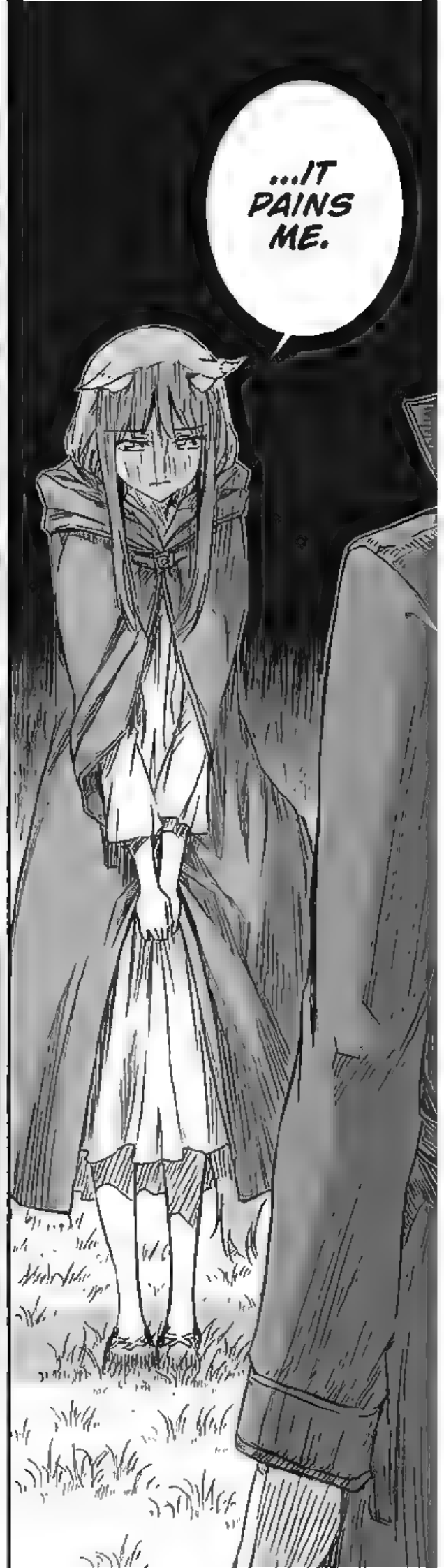


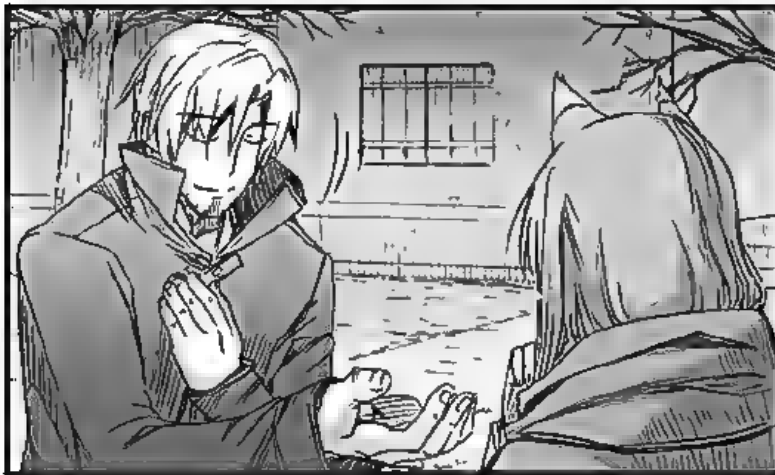
...OR CAUSE YOU  
TO WANDER SO  
SADLY OUT INTO  
A COURTYARD  
AT NIGHT LIKE  
THIS...

SHOULD  
THAT  
DESIRE  
PUT YOU  
IN HARM'S  
WAY...



BUT THAT  
IS TRULY  
NAUGHT BUT  
MY OWN  
SELFISH-  
NESS.





THIS WAS  
BECAUSE  
SHE HAD  
EXPECTATIONS  
OF HIM.



I'VE  
ALWAYS  
REGRETTED  
NOT DANCING  
WITH YOU ON  
THE BANKS  
OF THE ROAM  
RIVER.

WHAT  
SAY  
YOU?

IF SHE WISHED  
FOR HIM TO BE  
THE PROTAGONIST  
OF THIS STORY,  
WHAT DID THAT  
MAKE HER?



AYE, AND  
'TIS WHY  
I DID NOT  
WISH TO  
TELL YOU...



MM.

I SUPPOSE  
I MUST.

IF SHE COULD  
GET EVERYTHING  
SHE WANTED BY  
SIMPLY WISHING  
AND WORRYING,  
IT WAS QUITE A  
ROLE INDEED.



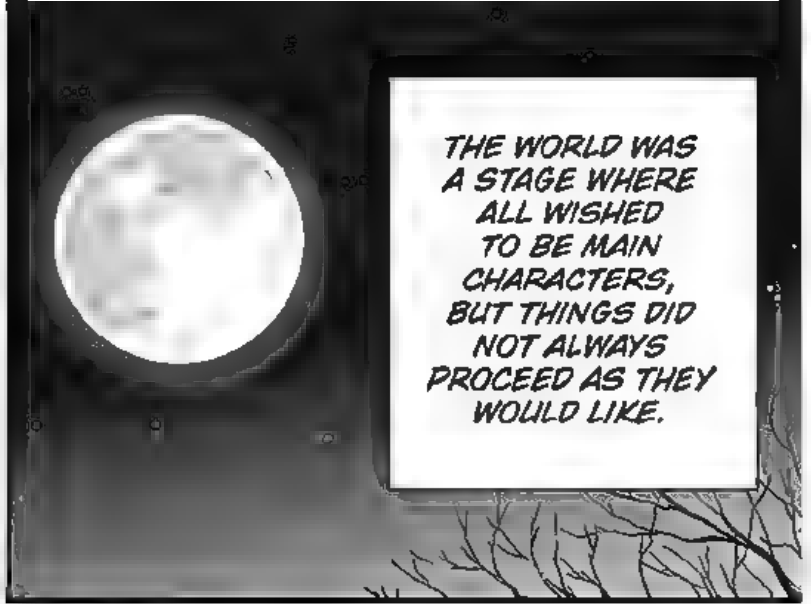
THE PROBLEM WAS  
THAT ALL THROUGH  
THE AGES, MEN  
HAD BEEN WEAK  
AGAINST SUCH  
OPPONENTS.



**BUT WHEN  
SOMEONE PUT  
THEIR TRUST IN  
YOU— THAT WAS  
A DIFFERENT  
STORY.**



**THE WORLD WAS  
A STAGE WHERE  
ALL WISHED  
TO BE MAIN  
CHARACTERS,  
BUT THINGS DID  
NOT ALWAYS  
PROCEED AS THEY  
WOULD LIKE.**



**IN SUCH A PLACE,  
BECOMING THE  
PROTAGONIST  
WAS NO MEAN  
FEAT, AS EVEN  
LAWRENCE KNEW.**



SPICE & WOLF





WE ARE  
THOSE WHO  
PREFER TO  
NEGOTIATE FOR  
GREATER PROFIT,  
RATHER THAN  
KEEP WHAT  
WE ALREADY  
HAVE!

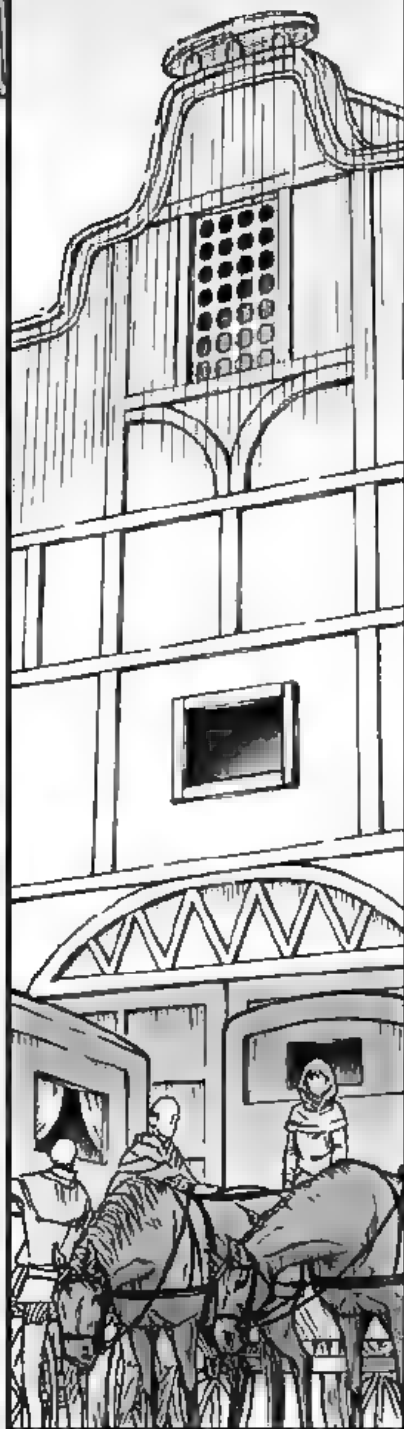
FELLOWS!  
WE ARE  
MERCHANTS!



IT IS  
THROUGH THE  
EFFORTS OF  
EVERYONE IN  
LAYING THE  
FOUNDATION FOR  
THIS NEGOTIATION  
THAT WE SHALL  
REALIZE SUCH  
PROFIT!



WE  
HOPE TO  
REAP THE  
UTMOST  
GAIN!







WAA

TRADE  
WAR.

GLORY  
TO THE  
ROWEN  
TRADE  
GUILD!

IN THE  
NAME OF OUR  
PATRON, SAINT  
LOMBARDOS,  
MAY GLORY  
BE OURS!

I  
AM NOW  
MAKING  
FOR THE  
SPRING  
OF GOLD.

GLORY  
BE  
OURS!

WAA  
(CHEER)



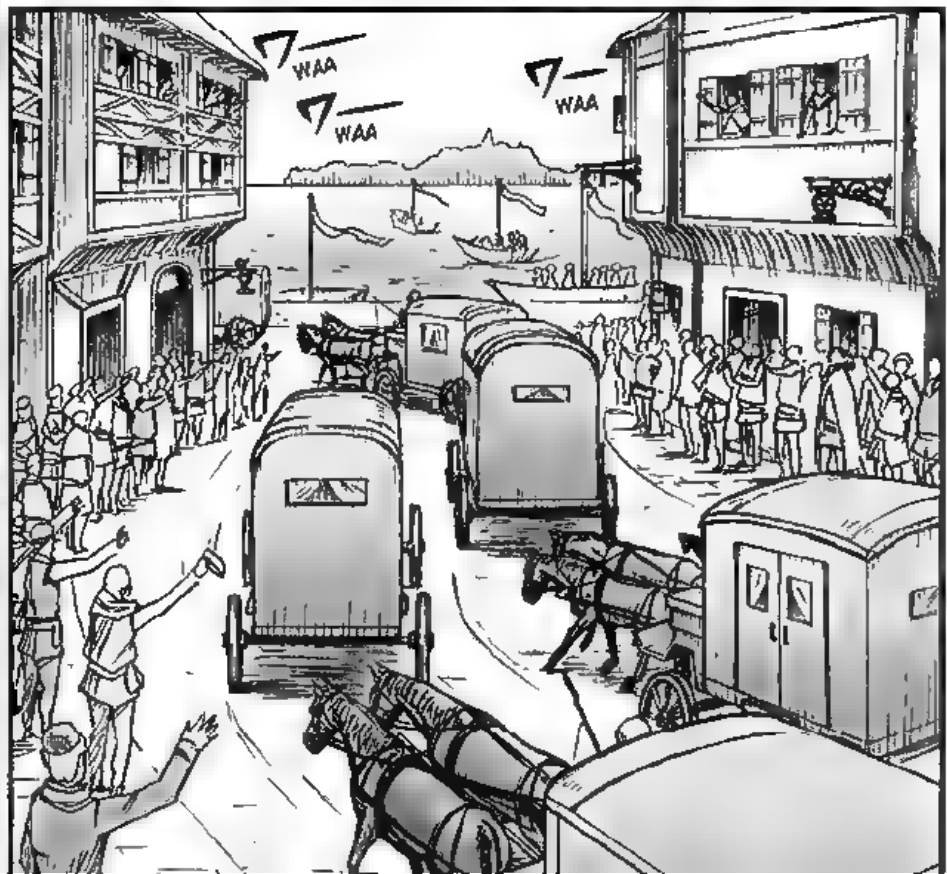
WAA  
SOUTHERN  
VICTORY IS  
ASSURED...

IT WAS  
BECAUSE TO  
ANYONE BORN  
A MAN, THIS  
ATMOSPHERE  
WAS INHERENTLY  
APPEALING.

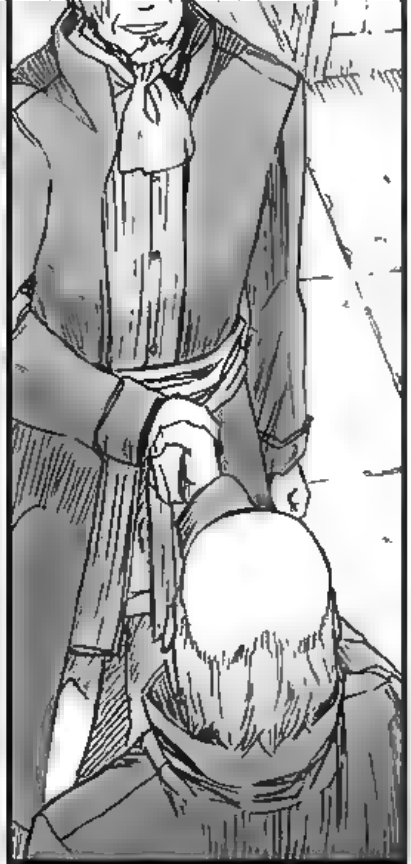
WAA  
...  
FINALLY!



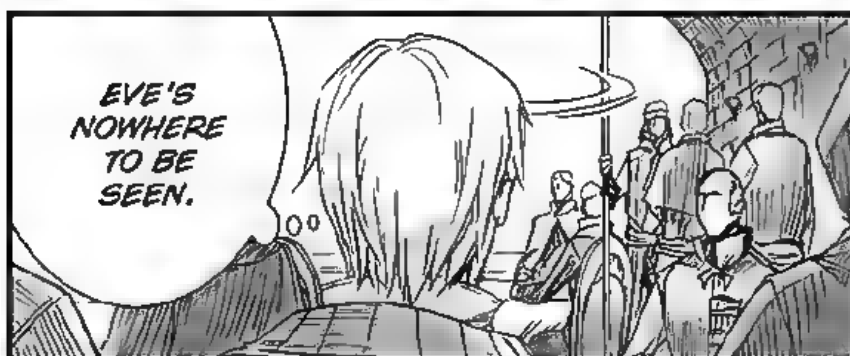
THE ATMOSPHERE  
MADE LAWRENCE'S  
HEART BEAT  
FASTER, BUT NOT  
BECAUSE HE WAS  
ON THE VERGE  
OF AN IMPORTANT  
NEGOTIATION.















...FROM  
THE MEN  
DESPERATE  
TO OUTWIT  
EVERYONE  
ELSE AND  
GAIN ALL THE  
PROFIT.

PERHAPS  
EVEN AT THIS  
MOMENT, SHE'S  
DROWNING IN  
LOVE LETTERS...



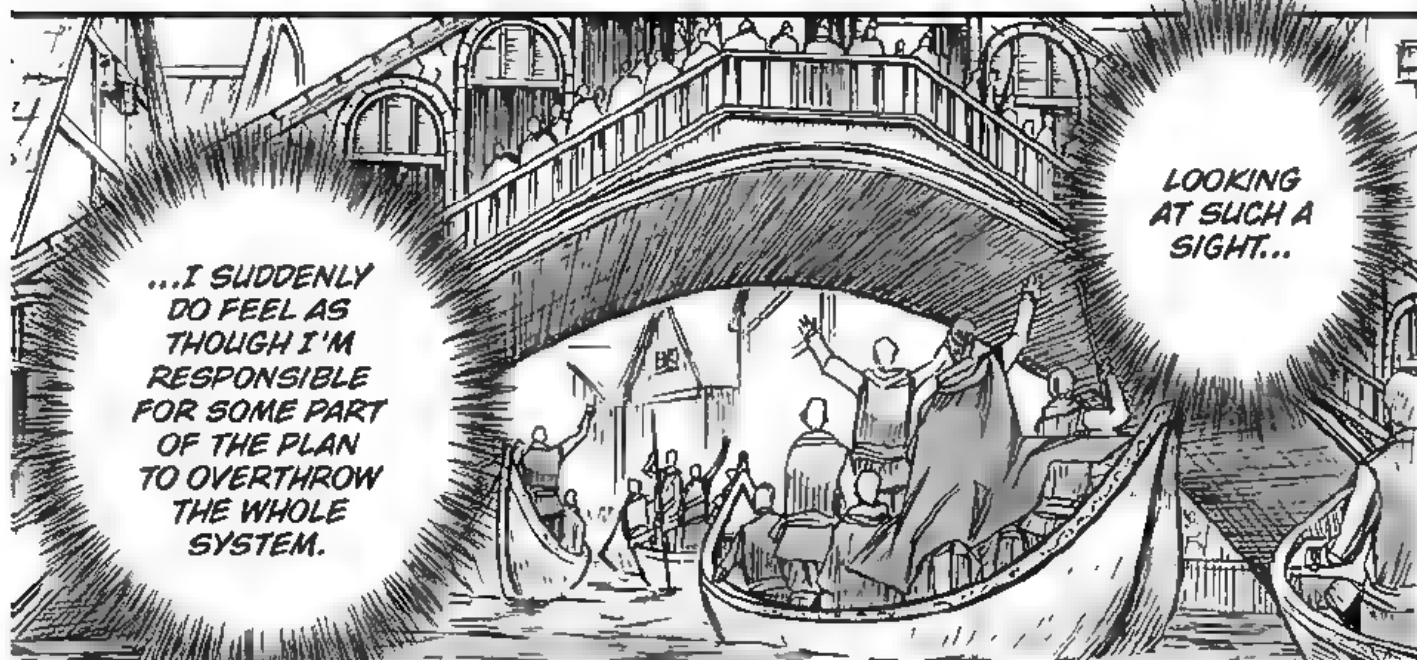
HEH...



I SUPPOSE  
I'D BEST GO  
PRESENT MY  
BOUQUET  
AS WELL.



(GATA  
CRATTLE)



...I SUDDENLY  
DO FEEL AS  
THOUGH I'M  
RESPONSIBLE  
FOR SOME PART  
OF THE PLAN  
TO OVERTHROW  
THE WHOLE  
SYSTEM.

LOOKING  
AT SUCH A  
SIGHT...



SO, THEN,  
YOU HAVE ONLY  
TO EXPLAIN TO  
MADAM BOLAN  
WHAT I TOLD  
YOU EARLIER.

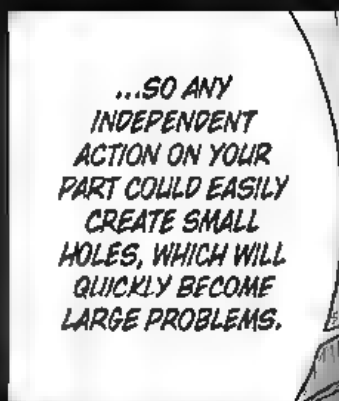


YES, IT'S  
FINE.

.....



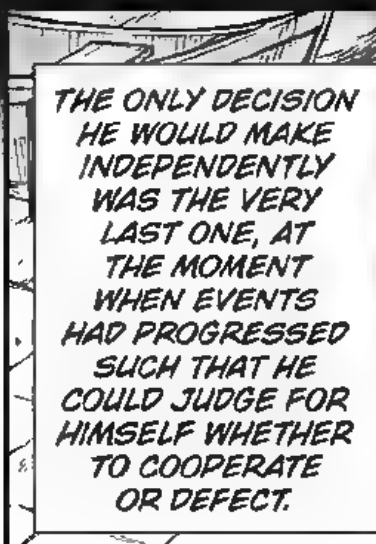
DO  
YOU TRULY  
NOT MIND  
LEAVING YOUR  
COMPANION  
BEHIND?



...SO ANY  
INDEPENDENT  
ACTION ON YOUR  
PART COULD EASILY  
CREATE SMALL  
HOLES, WHICH WILL  
QUICKLY BECOME  
LARGE PROBLEMS.



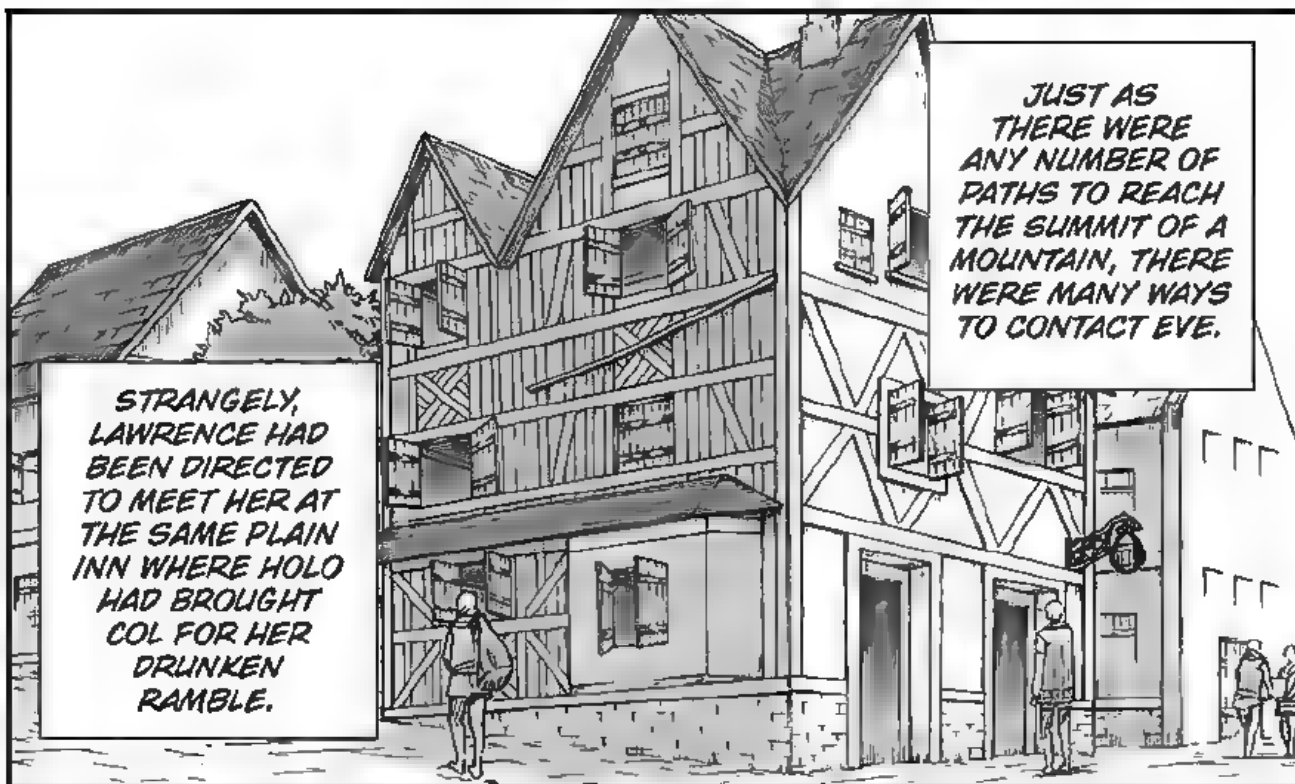
MY OWN  
PREPARATIONS  
HAVE BECOME  
RATHER  
COMPLICATED...



THE ONLY DECISION  
HE WOULD MAKE  
INDEPENDENTLY  
WAS THE VERY  
LAST ONE, AT  
THE MOMENT  
WHEN EVENTS  
HAD PROGRESSED  
SUCH THAT HE  
COULD JUDGE FOR  
HIMSELF WHETHER  
TO COOPERATE  
OR DEFECT.



JUST AS  
KIEMAN COULD  
HARDLY SPEND TWO  
WEEKS ON ROUGH  
MOUNTAIN ROADS  
WHILE SUBSISTING  
ON NOTHING BUT  
RYE BREAD AND  
RAIN WATER,  
LAWRENCE COULD  
NOT MANEUVER THE  
WAY KIEMAN COULD.



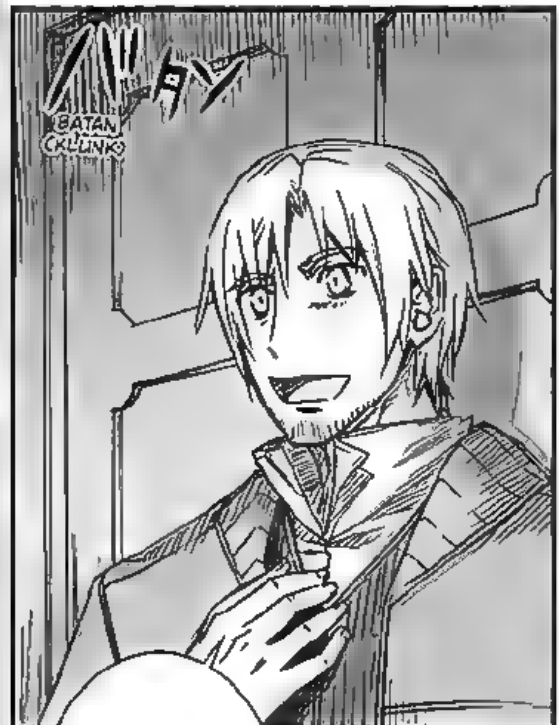
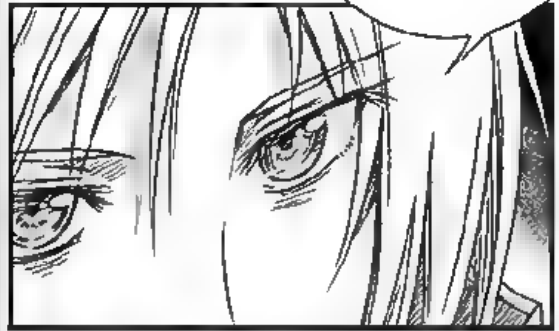


EXACTLY  
SO.

AND NOW I'M  
SURROUNDED  
BY SLEEP  
TALK.



HAVE YOU  
ANY IDEA  
HOW MUCH  
IT SADDENS  
ME TO SEE  
YOU HERE?



WAS IT  
TIME FOR  
YOUR NAP?



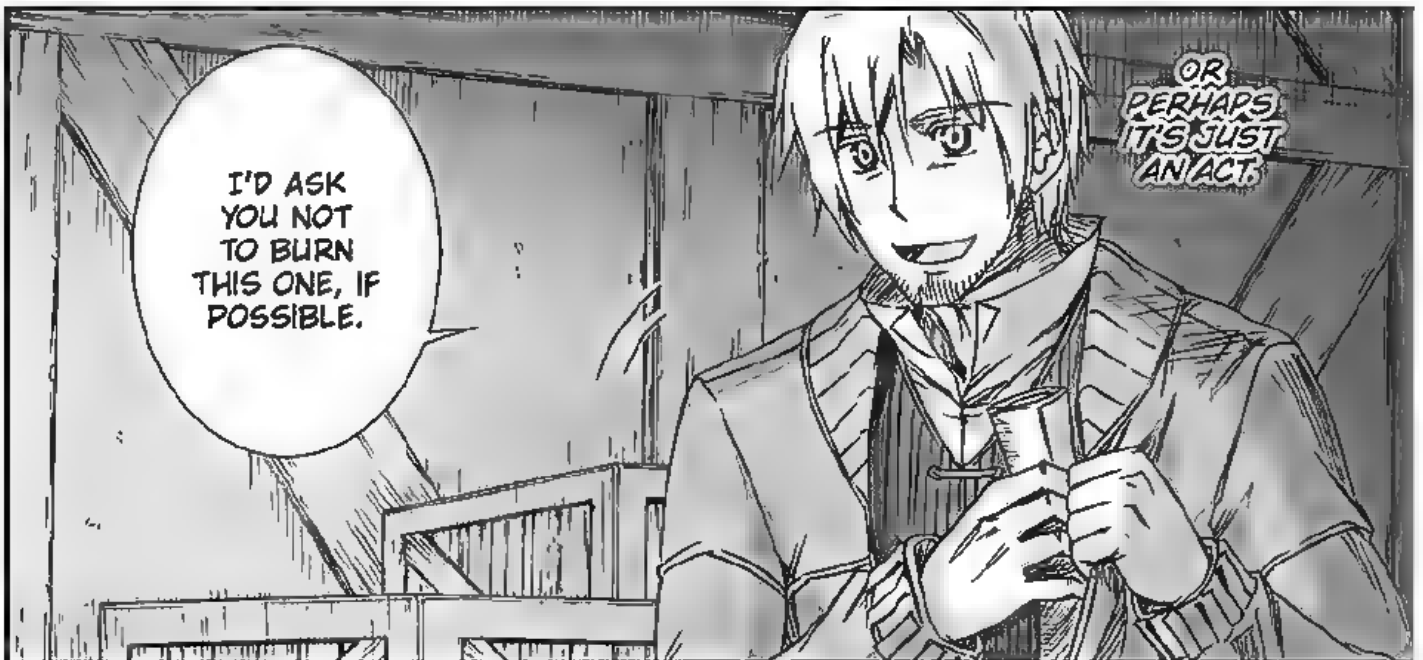
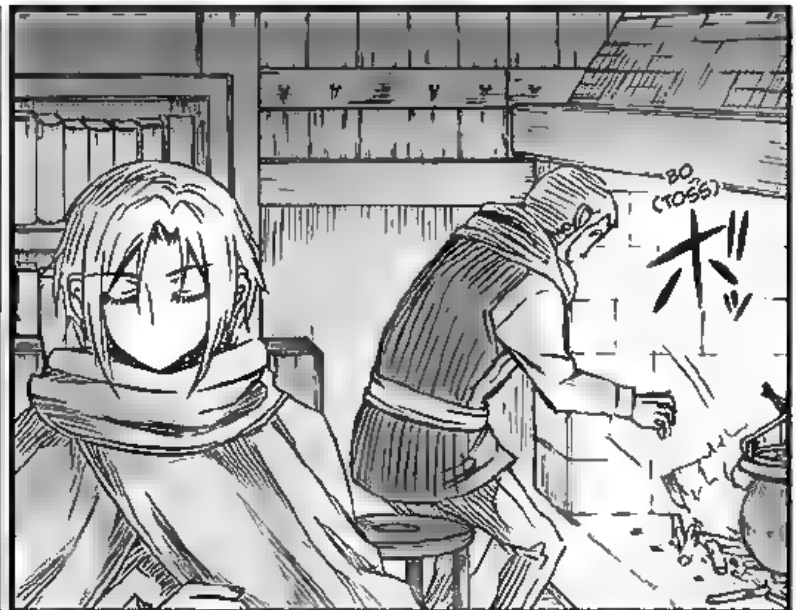
KASA  
(SHUFF)



# SPICE & WOLF

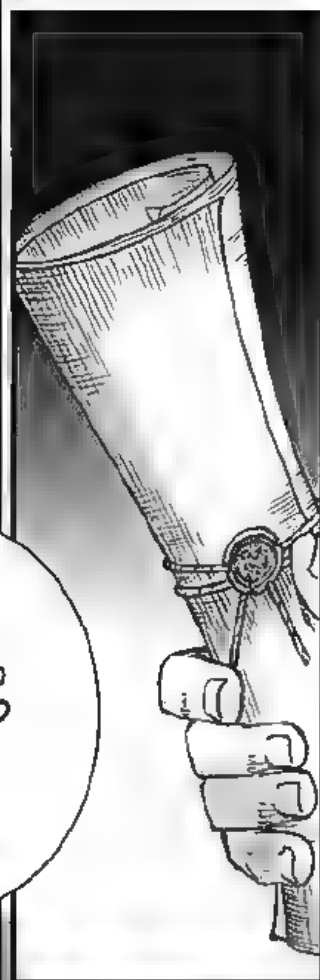






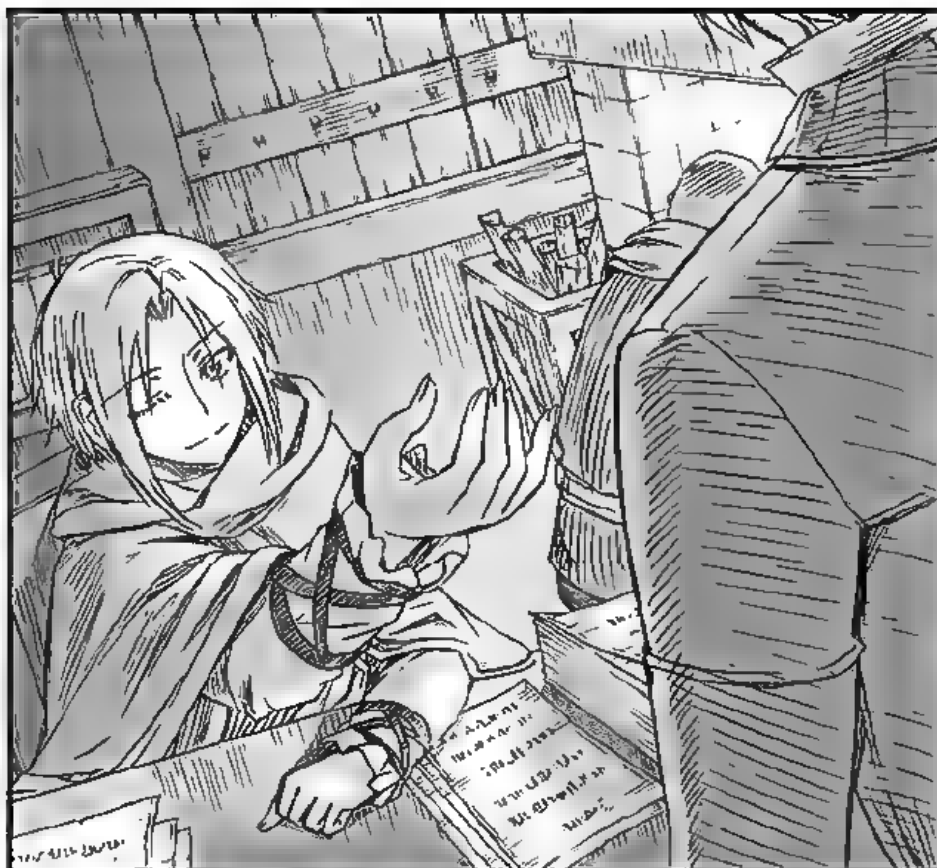


I'VE NO  
NEED TO  
SEE IT.

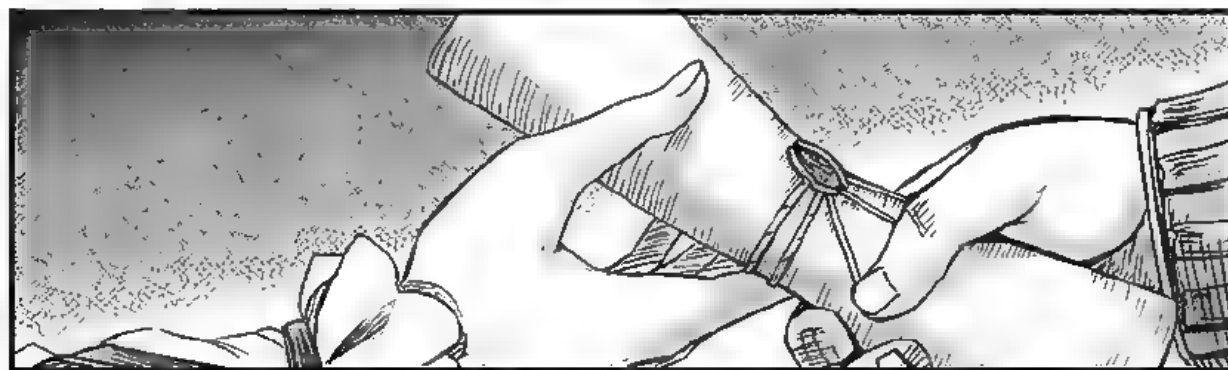


ALL I'M  
INTERESTED  
IN...

...IS  
WHETHER  
YOU'RE  
MY ALLY  
OR NOT.



OR MORE  
ACCURATELY,  
WHETHER I'LL  
LISTEN TO  
WHAT YOU TELL  
ME TO DO IN  
THE END OR  
NOT.



HM...  
IT'S SO  
CLOSE TO MY  
EXPECTATIONS  
IT'S A BIT  
UNNERVING.



.....

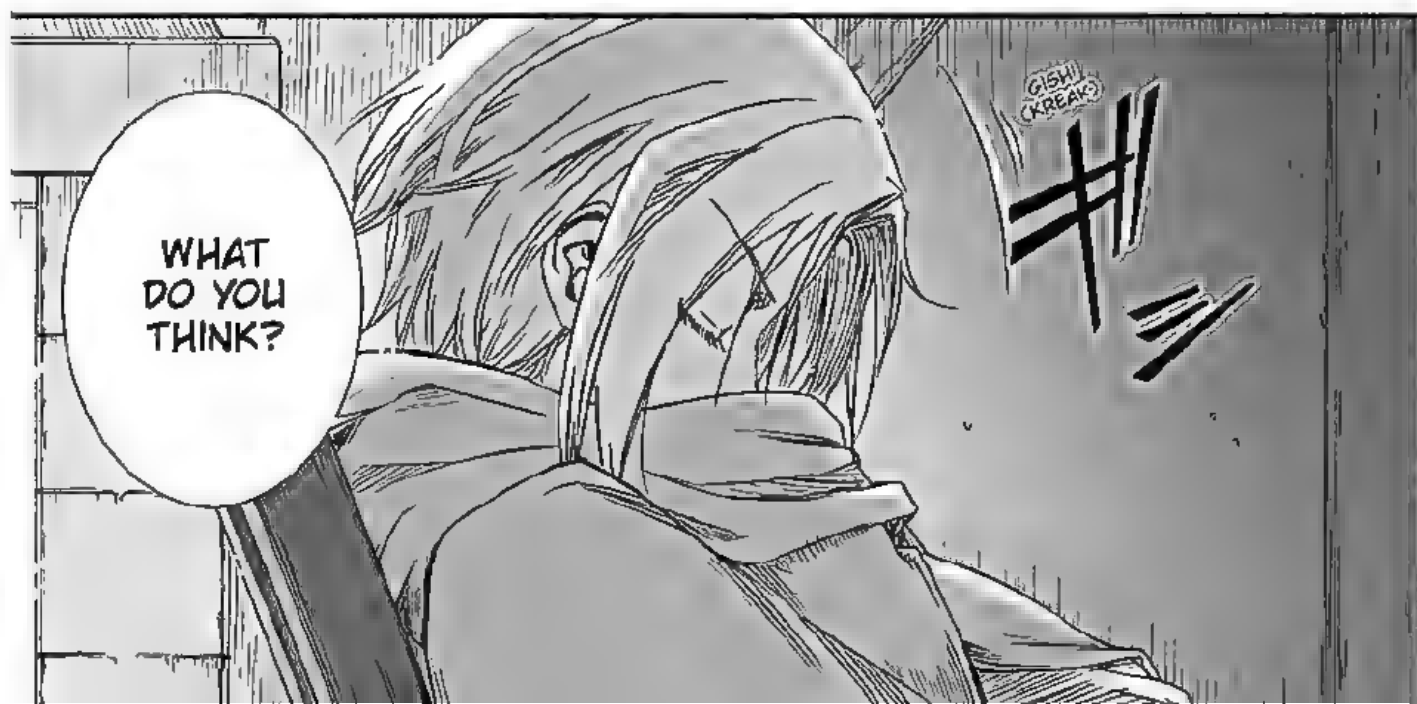
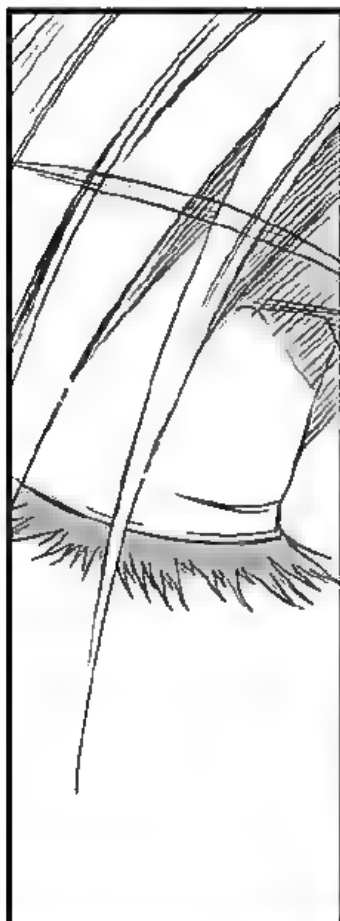




ALMOST AS  
THOUGH YOU  
TOLD THEM  
ABOUT OUR  
SECRET  
MEETING.



YOU  
JEST.





GIVEN THAT  
YOU'VE RECEIVED  
MY MESSAGE,  
MY JOB'S BEEN  
COMPLETED  
WITHOUT  
INCIDENT.



IT'S A  
HARD THING,  
NOT BEING  
ABLE TO SEE  
THE HEARTS OF  
OTHERS WITH  
YOUR OWN  
EYES.



EVERYBODY'S  
SATISFIED.



THE  
NORTHERN  
LANDLORDS  
EXCHANGE A  
NOTE OF DEED  
TRANSFER OF  
THEIR LAND  
FOR THE  
NARWHAL.

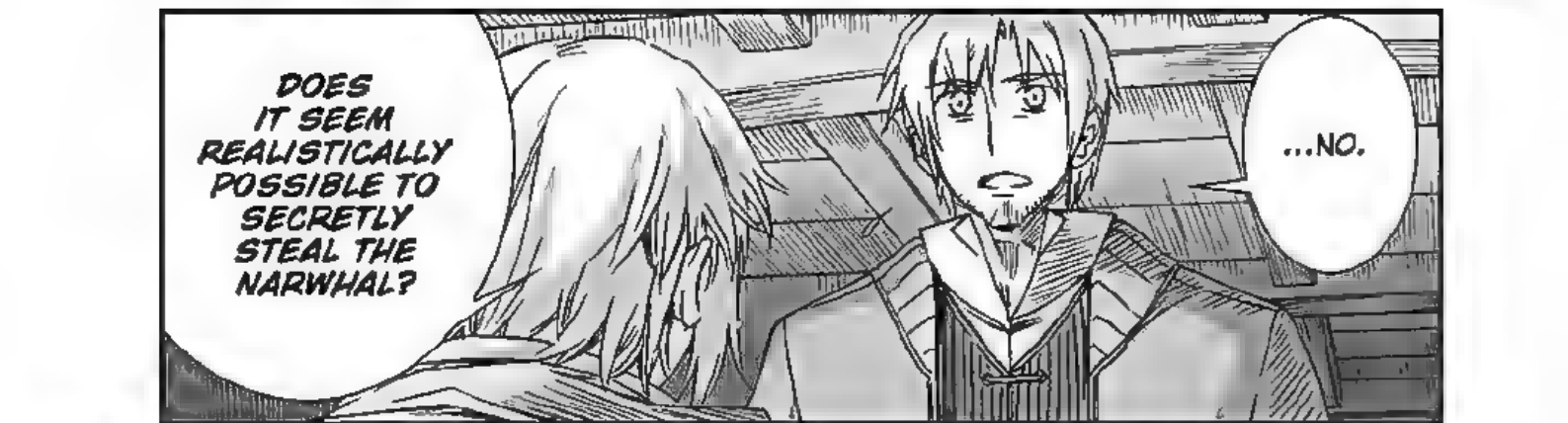
I  
SPLIT THE  
PROFITS  
WITH THE  
NORTHERN  
TRAITOR...

...AND YOUR  
GUILD GETS  
THE PROFIT  
FROM HAVING  
BESTED THEIR  
COMPETITORS.






DO YOU  
KNOW WHO  
KIEMAN IS  
CONNECTED  
WITH?



DOES  
IT SEEM  
REALISTICALLY  
POSSIBLE TO  
SECRETLY  
STEAL THE  
NARWHAL?

...NO.



...AND  
JURISDICTION  
OF THE TOWN  
IS SHARED BY  
THE COUNCIL,  
THE CHURCH,  
AND THE  
LANDLORDS.

THE THIRD  
GENERATION  
HEAD HAS  
ALREADY  
PAID HIS  
RESPECTS  
TO THE  
NEARBY  
LAND-  
LORDS...

SO LONG  
AS THEY HAVE  
GROUNDS  
TO ASSERT  
THEIR RIGHTS,  
THINGS SHOULD  
WORK OUT.



IT MAY  
NOT CARRY  
ANY ACTUAL  
WEIGHT. WHAT  
DOES KIEMAN  
PLAN TO DO  
ABOUT  
THAT?

THE DEED  
TRANSFER WILL  
BE WRITTEN  
BY THE LAND-  
LORD'S SON,  
WHO HAS NO  
ACTUAL  
AUTHORITY.



PERHAPS  
BY BRIBING  
THE GUARDS  
ON WATCH.



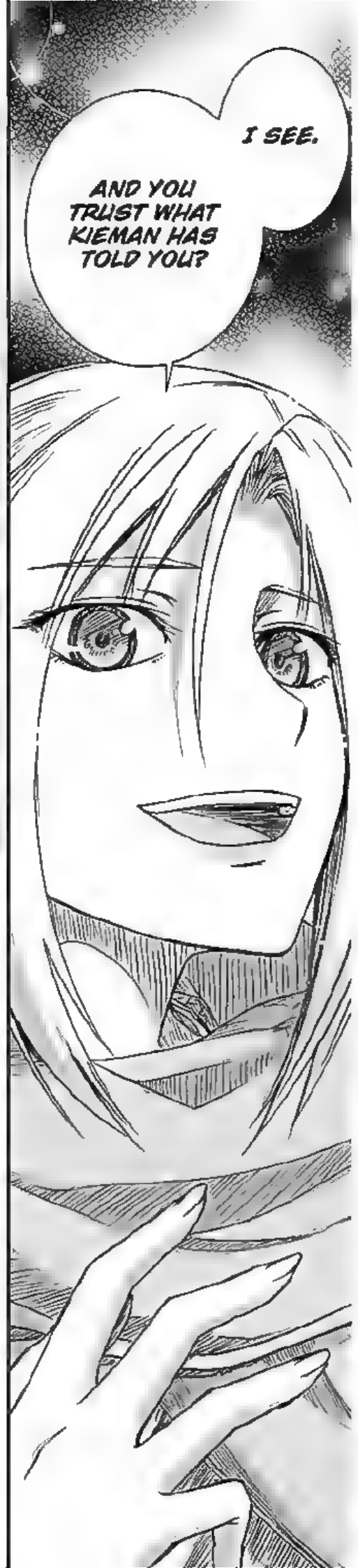
A PERFECT  
ANSWER.



I DO NOT  
TRUST HIS  
WORDS, BUT  
I AM GOING  
ALONG WITH  
THEM ANYWAY.



BUT NOT  
ENOUGH TO  
BRIDGE THE  
DISTANCE THAT  
SEPARATES  
US.



I SEE.

AND YOU  
TRUST WHAT  
KIEMAN HAS  
TOLD YOU?





WHEN A CHILD  
BURNS HERSELF  
IN A FIREPLACE,  
SHE FEARS IT  
EVEN WHEN THE  
FIRE IS OUT.



AH-HA-HA-HA-HA-HAI

CHILDISH?  
THAT'S  
RIGHT, IT'S  
CHILDISH!



...THEN  
MERCHANTS  
WOULD HAVE  
NO CHOICE BUT  
TO SIT ALONE IN  
EMPTY ROOMS,  
TREMBLING  
AND AFRAID.

IF  
THAT  
WERE  
SO...









HAVE YOU  
EVER BEEN  
BETRAYED  
BY SOMEONE  
YOU TRUSTED  
COMPLETELY?


DON'T  
YOU THINK IT  
RIDICULOUS?

THAT BY  
EXCHANGING  
A FEW SLIPS  
OF PAPER AND  
A FEW OF THE  
FORMLESS  
WORDS THAT  
COME FROM  
OUR MOUTHS  
...

...WE CAN  
GAIN SUCH  
MONEY AS  
CAN BUY  
A HUMAN  
LIFE?



**A VAST  
AMOUNT  
OF MONEY.**




**WHAT DO  
YOU THINK  
IS WAITING  
FOR YOU AT  
THE END OF  
A LIFE SO  
LIVED...?**




**THE ONLY  
ONE I TRUST  
IS MYSELF,  
WHEN I'M  
BETRAYING  
ANOTHER.**

**THAT'S  
WHAT I'M  
EXPECTING.**



ONCE I'VE  
TRANSCENDED  
THE WORLD  
OF MONEY...

...I'LL  
BE ABLE  
TO REACH A  
WORLD WITH  
NO WORRY, NO  
SUFFERING.



AIMING FOR A  
WORLD WITHOUT  
WORRY AND  
SUFFERING,  
BUT TRYING  
TO REACH IT  
VIA CONSTANT  
BETRAYAL...

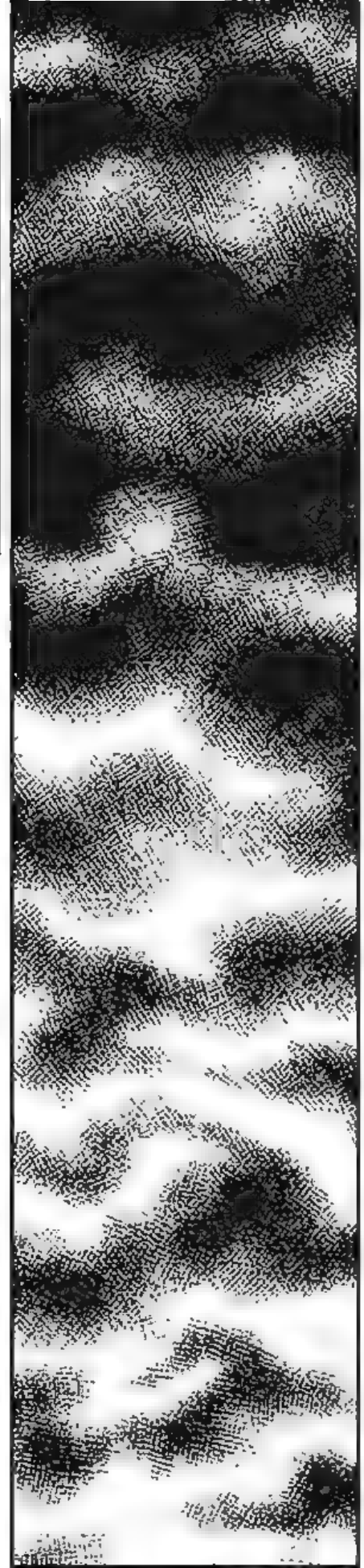
NOR  
IS IT A  
TRAP.

THIS IS  
NO ACT.

...IT'S THE  
VERY SOURCE  
OF HUMAN  
SIN...

WHAT  
IS IT THAT  
THE PERSON  
BEFORE ME  
SEES...?









**"I ACCEPT  
KIEMAN'S  
PROPOSAL."**

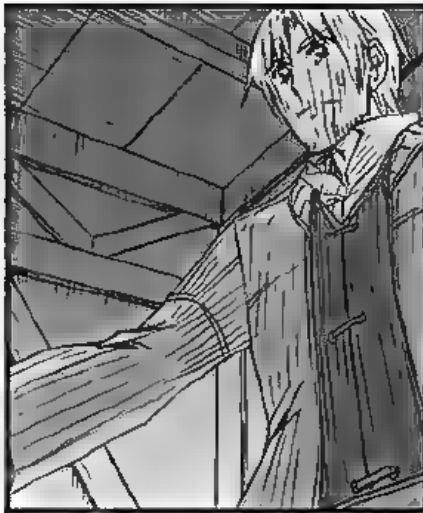


**UNDERSTOOD.**

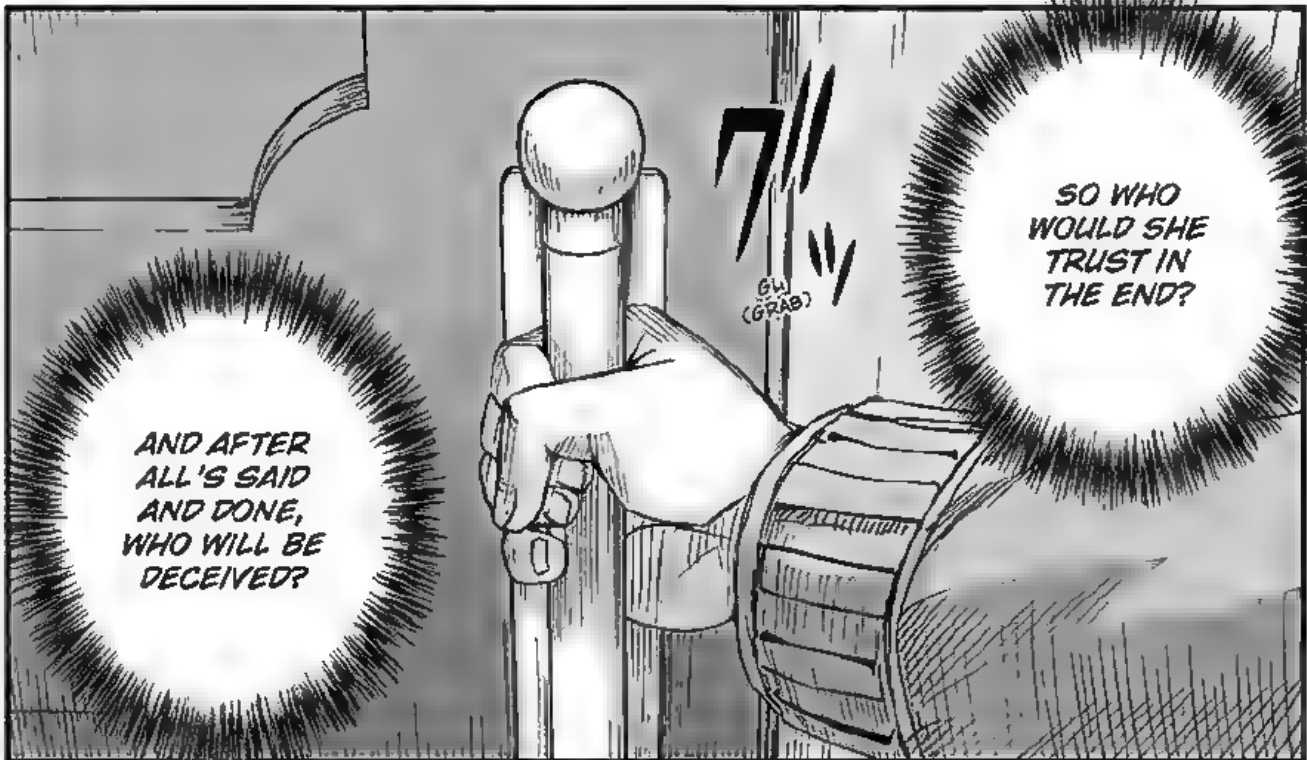
**EVE IS  
A GENIUS.  
HOW CAN I  
POSSIBLY  
TRUST HER  
WORDS?**



**EVE  
TRUSTS  
NO ONE.**



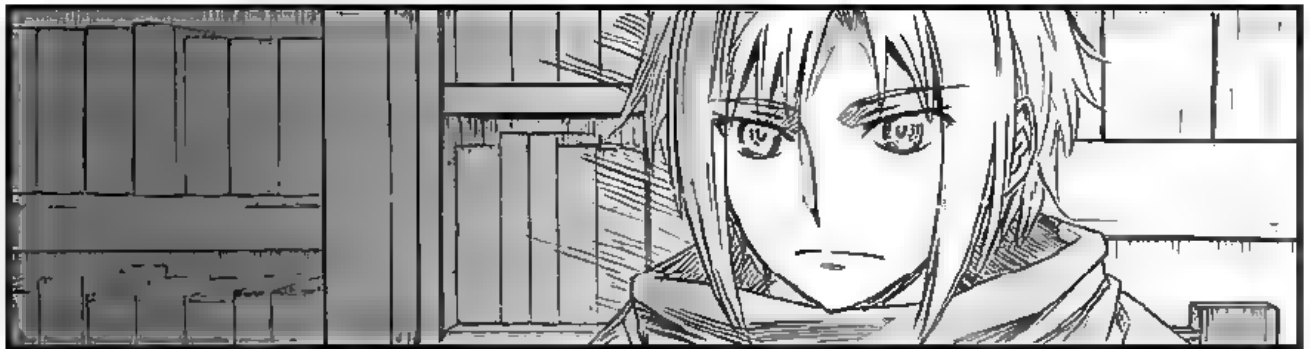
**BUT WITHOUT  
TRUSTING SOMEONE,  
SOMEWHERE,  
TRADES CANNOT  
BE COMPLETED, AND  
THUS NO PROFIT  
CAN BE HAD.**



**AND AFTER  
ALL'S SAID  
AND DONE,  
WHO WILL BE  
DECEIVED?**

**SO WHO  
WOULD SHE  
TRUST IN  
THE END?**

**GW  
(GRAB)**





I  
SUPPOSE  
NOT.

HEH  
HEH  
HEH...

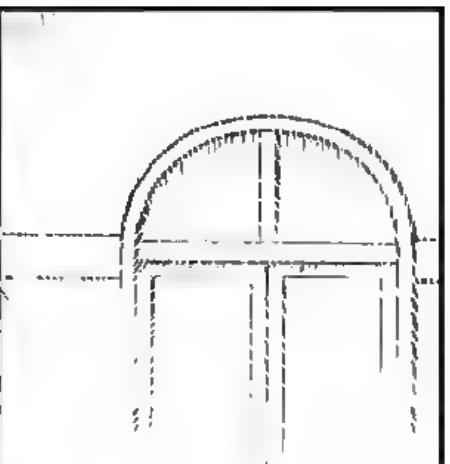


I DON'T  
WANT TO  
BELIEVE  
I'VE BEEN  
FOOLED.









**To be Continued in Volume II...**

SPICE & WOLF

# Thanks for 10 volumes!

## words of Appreciation

THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH.  
I'M KEITO KOLUME. WE'VE COME TO  
VOLUME 10 OF *SPICE AND WOLF*.  
DURING THE SEVEN YEARS IT'S BEEN  
RUNNING, I'VE BEEN HONORED TO DO  
SIGNING EVENTS IN TAIWAN AND FRANCE!

I'D LIKE TO THANK ALL  
THOSE WHO SO PATIENTLY  
HELPED ME GET THIS FAR:  
• EDITORS O-SAN, A-SAN,  
AND T-SAN  
• THE AUTHOR HASEKURA-SENSEI  
• THE CHARACTER DESIGNER  
AYAKURA-SENSEI  
• ALL MY ASSISTANTS  
• AND, ABOVE ALL, THE READERS.  
THIS IS ALL THANKS TO YOU!  
THANK YOU SO MUCH!  
AFTER THIS WE'RE GOING TO  
BE AIMING FOR THE FINISH  
OF THE SERIES, SO I HOPE  
WE'LL HAVE YOUR SUPPORT.

AS A BONUS FOR THIS VOLUME,  
I RE-DREW THE SCENE WHERE  
LAWRENCE AND HOLO FIRST MEET,  
WHICH FIRST RAN IN *DENGEKI*  
*BUNKO MAGAZINE*. I HOPE  
IT'S INTERESTING TO COMPARE  
THIS TO THE CHAPTER I DREW  
SEVEN YEARS AGO. (ALTHOUGH  
FOR ME, IT'S JUST TERRIBLY  
EMBARRASSING.) ANYWAY,  
I HOPE YOU ENJOY IT!

Special Thanks!!

MR. OKAMOTO  
ITTOUHEI,  
MR. TENTSU TOI,  
MR. YAKUN,  
MR. N-TA,  
MR. YUU,  
MR. A.



The First Meeting of Holo and Lawrence, Special Edition!


# SPICE & WOLF

I AM  
HOLO THE  
WISEWOLF.

WHAT'RE  
YOU...? HOW  
DID YOU  
GET IN MY  
WAGON-  
BED?

IT  
HAS BEEN  
SOME TIME  
SINCE I'VE  
TAKEN THIS  
FORM, BUT,  
WELL, IT  
IS QUITE  
NICE.

THE NIGHT A  
TRAVELING  
MERCHANT PASSED  
THROUGH THE  
VILLAGE OF PASLOE  
ON ITS HARVEST  
FESTIVAL DAY,  
HE FOUND A GIRL  
HIDDEN AWAY IN  
THE BED OF HIS  
HORSE-DRAWN  
WAGON.



ARE YOU  
A GOD?

THAT'S THE  
NAME OF  
THIS AREA'S  
GOD OF  
HARVEST.

HOLO?

I AM  
MERELY  
HOLO.

I HAVE  
LONG BEEN  
BOUND TO  
THIS PLACE  
AND CALLED  
ITS GOD...

...BUT  
I AM  
NOTHING  
SO GREAT  
AS A  
DEITY.

NOT  
ENOUGH  
FUR!

I DO NOT  
MIND TAKING  
HUMAN FORM,  
BUT IT IS  
UNAVOIDABLY  
COLD.

PUKISHI  
(ACHOO)





VERY WELL.

MOZO (SNUG)  
EY

I MUST ASK YOU ONE THING.



SHE DOESN'T SEEM A BAD SORT...

GISHI  
CKREAKO



YOU'VE AIDED THEIR HARVEST, HAVEN'T YOU?

IF YOU LEAVE, WILL THE VILLAGE STILL BE ABLE TO RAISE WHEAT?



URGH...

THE VILLAGE'S GOOD HARVESTS WILL CONTINUE.

IS THAT SO?




GIRI  
CKRRKO

ER... WHAT'S WRONG?



THEY SAID  
THEY COULD  
MAKE THE  
HARVEST  
GOOD THEM-  
SELVES.



AND FOR  
MANY YEARS,  
I KEPT THAT  
PROMISE.

...THAT  
I WOULD  
ENSURE THE  
VILLAGE'S  
HARVEST.

LONG  
DID I STAY  
IN THAT  
VILLAGE...  
AS MANY  
YEARS AS I  
HAVE HAIRS  
ON MY  
TAIL.



I CAN  
STAND  
IT NO  
LONGER!



LONG  
AGO, YOU  
SEE, I MADE  
A PROMISE  
WITH A YOUTH  
OF THE  
VILLAGE...

BUT THE  
HARVESTS WERE  
LESSENED WHEN  
I LET THE FIELDS  
REST, AND THE  
VILLAGERS SAID  
IT WAS MY CA-  
PRICIOUSNESS  
THAT MADE  
IT SO.

AND IT  
HAS ONLY  
GOTTEN  
WORSE IN  
RECENT  
YEARS.

I WISH  
TO  
RETURN  
NORTH.



TO MY  
BIRTHPLACE,  
THE FOREST  
OF YOITSU.



I LONG AGO  
FULFILLED MY  
PROMISE!



BUT  
WHERE DO  
YOU PLAN  
TO GO,  
HAVING  
LEFT THE  
VILLAGE?



I  
UNDERSTAND  
YOUR  
RESENTMENT.





HER  
BIRTHPLACE...

SO MANY  
YEARS HAVE  
PASSED  
THAT I CAN  
NO LONGER  
COUNT  
THEM.



SO AS  
LONG AS  
YOU'LL NOT  
TAKE ME BACK  
TO PASLOE,  
OR TURN ME  
OVER TO THE  
CHURCH...

...I'LL ASK YOUR  
HELP—YOU'RE  
A TRAVELING  
MERCHANT,  
ARE YOU  
NOT?



I'D  
LIKE TO  
TRAVEL  
WITH  
YOU.











YES...  
I SUPPOSE  
I AM.



I'VE LOVED  
EVERY MOMENT  
OF MY TRAVELS  
WITH HOLO,  
EVER SINCE  
THAT EVENING.

I  
TOLD YOU  
I NEVER  
MISREAD A  
PERSON.



YOU SEEM  
RATHER  
SATISFIED  
WITH YOURSELF  
THERE.

WHOA.

Finally, Volume 10! Congratulations!  
Story-wise and plot-wise,  
it's such an important point,  
so I just can't tear myself away!  
And as usual, Eve is terribly charming.  
I cannot wait for her more  
vulnerable scenes!

支倉凍砂  
ISUNA HASEKURA

# SPICE & WOLF



■ Congratulations  
on Volume 10! Finally,  
double digits! Thanks for  
all your hard work for so  
long. I'll be cheering for  
you with ever-increasing  
anticipation!

十景  
JYUU AYAKURA

# SPICE & WOLF 10

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ISUNA HASEKURA

KEITO KOUME

CHARACTER DESIGN:

JYUU AYAKURA

TRANSLATION: PAUL STARR

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LETTERING: TERRI DELGADO

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